



Selkirk Rex Shorthair & Selkirk Rex Longhair

General Standard

The Selkirk Rex is a medium to large cat with heavy boning that gives the cat surprising weight and an impression of power. It has a sweet, alert and active personality. It is the result of a dominant, spontaneous mutation that causes each hair (guard, down and awn) to have a gentle wave or curl, giving the coat a soft feel. Males are generally larger than females.

Head	Round, broad and full-cheeked in both males and females. The underlying bone structure is round, with no flat planes.
Ears	Medium in size, broad at the base, tapering to a slightly rounded tip, set well apart, upright with a slight forward tilt. When viewed from the front the ears should be set to create a U shape contour to the head. Furnishings, if present, should be curly.
Eyes	Large, rounded, and set well apart. The outside corner is set very slightly higher than the inner corner, giving a sweet open expression to the face. They should not appear almond or oval shaped and should be on the same horizontal plane when viewed from the front.
Nose	Has a downward slant with a convex curve and is set below the eye line with a gentle stop. In profile, there is a slight indentation in the nose, but not a definite break or stop.
Cheeks	Broad, full and well rounded.
Jaws	Medium width; the length being equal to half the width. The underlying bone structure is rounded with well-padded whisker pads to give the impression of squareness. The profile shows a short muzzle, clearly visible beyond the curve of the cheek.
Chin	Firm and well developed. The tip of the chin, tip of the nose and the upper lip are in a vertical line.
Neck	Short, thick and heavily muscled, especially in males.
Body	Medium to large and well balanced. The muscular torso is rectangular. The back is straight with slight rise to the hindquarters, shoulders and hips appearing the same width.
Tail	Thick, medium, with length in proportion to the body. Tapers slightly, neither blunt nor pointed at the tip.
Legs	Medium to long, substantially boned with straight forelegs and in proportion to the body.
Paws	Large, round and firm.

Scale of Points

Head (incl. ears, eyes, nose, muzzle, shape)	35	
Body (incl. torso, neck, legs, paws, tail)	30	
Coat (incl. density, curl, texture and colour)	30	
Condition	5	
Total		100

Faults & Penalties

Refer to general list of faults for all breeds plus:

Penalise:

- Excessive cobbiness.
- Sleek Oriental appearance.

Withhold:

- Lack of visible muzzle.
- No evidence of wave or curl.
- Extreme nose break.

Coat & Colour

Coat Length & Texture	<p>Shorthair: The texture is soft, plushy, dense and obviously curly. There are no bald or thinly covered areas of the body. The coat stands out from the body and should not appear flat or close lying. The curls are random, unstructured and arranged in loose, individual curls. Although curl varies with hair length, sex and age in an individual, the entire coat should show the effect of the rex gene. Curliness may be evident more around the neck, on the tail and belly. Allowance should be made for less curl on younger adults and kittens. Whiskers may show the effect of the rex gene.</p> <p>The Shorthair Selkirk Rex should have tail hairs the same length as the coat (approximately 2.5 - 3.75 cm, which is 1 – 1.5 inches) and tail curls are plush and lie compactly around the tail. The ruff is the same length as the coat fur.</p> <p>Longhair: The texture is soft, plushy, dense and obviously curly. There are no bald or thinly covered areas of the body. The coat stands out from the body and should not appear flat or close lying. The curls are random, unstructured and arranged in loose, individual curls. Although curl varies with hair length, sex and age in an individual, the entire coat should show the effect of the rex gene. Curliness may be evident more around the neck, on the tail and belly. Allowance should be made for less curl on younger adults and kittens. Whiskers may show the effect of the rex gene.</p> <p>The Longhair Selkirk Rex should have plumy tail hairs standing away from the tail. The body hairs are obviously long (5 cm - which is 2 inches - or more) with ruff hairs longer, framing the face.</p>
Coat Colour & Pattern	All body colours and colour patterns that are genetically possible in the cat may occur in the Selkirk Rex. Colour is secondary in importance to other factors.
Eye Colour	All eye colours allowed, to harmonise with coat colour.
Nose Leather & Paw Pads	Plain or mottled, to tone with the coat colour in the nose area.

Breeding Notes

Allowable Outcrosses

02/6/2009 Persian / Exotic for kittens born before 1st Jan 2021.

01/6/2024 British Shorthair.

Straight coated progeny from these matings to be registered as AOV Selkirk.

Notes

Pointed varieties have blue eyes. Blue eyes or odd eyes are only allowed for white cats or cats with white in van, bi-colour or unspecified amount of white.

Standard Updates

March 2023 – Standard reformatted. This reformatted standard includes all previous updates and amendments.

For information on previous standard updates and amendments, please see the Register of Breed Standards Updates on the CCCA website or contact the CCCA Secretary.

19 November 2023 - “Foundation” section removed as this was not approved for inclusion in the reformatted standard.

1 June 2024 – Removal of end date for outcrossing to British Shorthair.

24 February 2025 – Note regarding blue eyes.