

JAPANESE BOBTAIL – Shorthair & Longhair Standard of Excellence

The Japanese Bobtail is a medium sized cat with short hair, long clean lines and bone structure. The Japanese Bobtail Longhair is the longhaired version of this breed.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Japanese Bobtail should present the overall impression of a medium sized cat with clean lines and bone structure, well muscled but straight and slender rather than massive in build. The unique set of its eyes, combined with high cheek- bones and a long parallel nose, lend a distinctive Japanese cast to the face, especially in profile, quite different from the other oriental breeds. Its short tail should resemble a bunny tail with the hair fanning out to create a pom-pom appearance, which effectively camouflages the underlying bone structure of the tail.

Head	Although the head appears long and finely chiselled, it forms almost a perfect equilateral triangle (the triangle does not include the ears) with gentle curving lines, high cheekbones and a noticeable whisker break, the nose long and well-defined by two parallel lines from tip to brow with a gentle dip at, or just below, the eye level. Allowance must be made for jowls in the stud cat.
Ears	Large, upright and expressive, set wide apart but at right angles to the head rather than flaring outward and giving the impression of being tilted forward in repose.
Muzzle & Chin	Fairly broad and rounding into the whisker break, neither pointed nor blunt. The chin should be full, neither undershot nor overshot.
Eyes	Large, oval rather than round, but wide open and alert; set into the skull at a rather pronounced slant, when viewed in profile. The eyeball shows a shallow curvature and should not bulge out beyond the cheek bone or the forehead.
Body	Medium in size, males proportionately larger than females. Torso long, lean and elegant, not tubular, showing well developed muscular strength without coarseness. No inclination towards flabbiness or cobbiness. General balance of utmost importance.
Neck	Neither too long nor too short, in proportion to the length of the body.
Legs	In keeping with the body, long, slender and high, but not dainty or fragile in appearance. The hind legs are noticeably longer than the front legs, but deeply angulated to bend when the cat is standing relaxed so that the torso remains nearly level rather than rising towards the rear. When standing the cat's front legs and shoulders form two continuous straight lines, close together.
Paws	Oval. Five toes in front and four behind.
Coat Shorthair	Medium length, soft and silky, but without a noticeable undercoat.
Coat Longhair	Length medium-long to long, texture soft and silky, with no noticeable undercoat in the mature adult. Frontal ruff desirable. Coat may be shorter and close lying over the shoulders, gradually lengthening toward the rump, with noticeable longer hair on the tail and rear britches. Ear and toe tufts desirable. Coat should lie so as to accent the lines of the body.

Tail	<p>The tail is unique not only to the breed, but to each individual cat. This is to be used as a guideline, rather than promoting one specific type of tail out of the many that occurs within the breed.</p> <p>The tail must be clearly visible and is composed of one or more curves, angles, or kinks or any combination thereof. The furthest extension of the tail bone from the body should be no longer than three inches. The direction in which the tail is carried is not important. The tail may be flexible or rigid and should be of a size and shape that harmonizes with the rest of the cat.</p>
Colour	<p>In keeping with Japan's traditional mi-ke (mee-kay) cats, which are tri-coloured black, red and white, the preferred breeding colours are those that tend to produce tri-coloured females.</p> <p>In bi-colours and tri-colours any colour may predominate with preference given to bold, dramatic markings and vividly contrasting colours. In the solid colour cat the coat colour should be of uniform density and colour from the tip to the root of each hair and from the nose of the cat to the tail. Nose leather, paw pads, and eye colour should harmonise generally with coat colour. Blue eyes and odd eyes are allowed.</p>

Penalise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short round head. • Cobby build.
Disqualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tail bone absent or extending too far beyond the body. • Tail lacking in pom-pom or fluffy appearance. • Delayed bobtail effect (i.e. the pom-pom being preceded by an inch or two of normal tail with close lying hair rather than appearing to commence at the base of the spine).

SCALE OF POINTS

Total	100 points
Head	20
Type	30
Tail	20
Colour & Markings	20
Coat	10

RECOGNISED COLOURS

- All Traditional Solid Colours (White, Black, Blue, Red, Cream).
- All Traditional Tabby Colours.
- All Traditional Bi-Colours (Solids with White).
- All Traditional Tabby Bi-Colours (Tabby with White).

Dense Mi-Ke (Dense Calico) (Black Tortie)	Tricolour. Black, red and white. (Red areas may have tabby striping or spotting).
Dilute Mi-Ke (Dilute Calico) (Blue Tortie)	Tricolour. Blue, cream and white.
Dense Patched Mi-Ke (Black Tortie Tabby)	Areas of brown tabby and areas of red on white.
Dilute Patched Mi-Ke (Blue Tortie Tabby)	Areas of Blue tabby and areas of cream on white.

ALLOWABLE OUTCROSSES: None