

NEW ZEALAND SHORTHAIR or Longhair Standard of Excellence

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The typical Antipodean Domestic Cat, the "New Zealand" Shorthair/Longhair is a medium bodied cat of muscular build. The overall appearance is that of a sound, well-balanced working cat, indicating endurance. The cat must not show evidence of any extremes, it shall be neither exceptionally long or elegant or foreign in type, nor have an elongated head. Nor shall it emulate an abnormally cobby, or short body or have a foreshortened or brachycephalic head. Everything about this cat should reflect its domestic origins.

Body	Medium, solidly built, muscular, with well rounded ample chest and well developed shoulders. Back straight and level, equally broad from shoulder to hip. Males proportionately larger than females.
Head	Medium to large, with fullness of cheek and well developed jawline. An open expression. In profile, not to be too elongated, nor too foreshortened, but may fit anywhere in between, preferably with gently rounded contours, or with angular contours which complement the skeletal structure. A gently rounded or sloping forehead with a straight nose with a decided dip in profile is preferred, but a marked nose break, or a nose extending from the forehead without a dip would be considered a fault. The muzzle should be obvious, gently or more fully rounded. Chin firm and well developed. Jaw broad at the hinge, to indicate a powerful bite.
Neck	Medium and muscular, in proportion to the body.
Ears	Medium in size, slightly rounded at the tips and not unduly open at the base.
Eyes	Large, and lustrous, but not completely round nor slanted in an oriental style. Any shape between almond and almost round. A slight flattening of the top line, set wide apart and at a slight angle. Bright, clear and alert. Eye colour to compliment coat colour, the deeper the better. All eye colours acceptable, including Green, Gold, Copper, and including Blue or Odd-Eyed in Whites.
Legs	Medium, or medium short or medium long, but in proportion to the body, medium boned and heavily muscled. All four legs straight with paws firm rounded and facing forward.
Tail	Medium, in proportion to the body, heavier at the base but tapering to a gently rounded tip.
Coat	Short, lustrous, moderately thick and even in Shorhairs. Dense enough to protect from moisture, but not plush or double coated. Semi-long and shaggy in Longhairs with a definite 'lift'.

SCALE OF POINTS

Total	100 points
Head (incl. Size, shape, neck, ears, eye shape & colour, nose & muzzle) (Eye colour – 5)	35
Body (incl. Size, shape, condition, muscle tone, legs, feet & tail)	35
Coat (incl. Condition & texture)	10
Colour (incl. Pattern)	20

Penalize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive cobbliness or ranginess. • Very short or long tail. • Lack of sufficient muscle tone or any suggestion of softness. • Overly large or pointed ears. • Locketts or buttons. Although undesirable, penalty, but do not disqualify.
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Disqualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of hybridisation, resulting in the colours, Chocolate, sable, lavender, lilac, or point-restricted; including exceptionally long or fluffy fur, or exceptionally sleek and closing lying fur. Deep nose break or exceptionally straight profile from forehead to nose tip. • Kinked or abnormal tail.
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RECOGNISED COLOURS:

All Traditional Solids, Tabbies, Smokes, Silver Tabbies, and related Parti-Colours.
No evidence of hybridisation.
No pointed series, chocolate or lilac series, or cinnamon and fawn series.

ALLOWABLE OUTCROSSES: None

Departure for Generational progression.
Registered Domestic as Gen 1 only until 30th June 2015.