

BREED CODE: BRL - BRITISH LONGHAIR

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The British Longhair cat is compact, well balanced and powerful, showing good depth of body, a full broad chest, short strong legs, rounded paws, tail thick at base with rounded tip. The head is round with a good width between the ears, round cheeks, firm chin, small ears, large round and well-opened eyes and a short broad nose. The coat is semi-longhair and dense.

Head	<p>Round face with full cheeks and good breadth of skull with round underlying bone structure. The head should be set on a short thick neck.</p> <p>The nose should be short, broad and straight. In profile, a rounded forehead should lead to a short, straight nose with a nose break which is neither too pronounced nor too shallow.</p> <p>A strong, firm and deep chin is essential. Any deviation from this to be considered a fault. The bite must be level, the tip of the chin to line up with the tip of the nose in the same vertical plane.</p>
Ears	<p>Small, rounded at the tips. Set far apart fitting into (without distorting) the rounded contour of the head. External ear to be well covered with fur, internal furnishings desirable.</p>
Eyes	<p>Large, round and well-opened. Set wide apart with no tendency to Oriental shape. No squint.</p>
Body	<p>Cobby type with short level back. Low on legs with broad deep chest. Equally massive across the shoulders and the rump. Medium to large, but not rangy.</p>
Paws	<p>Round and firm. Toes carried close, five on each forefoot (including dew claw) and four on each back foot. Paws should be tufted.</p>
Tail	<p>Should be thick and of medium length, thicker at the base with rounded tip. The tail shall be bushy, well-furnished and full.</p>
Coat	<p>Semi-longhaired, straight, dense and should have a degree of resilience with natural protective appearance. A ruff, ear tufts and</p>

britches desirable. The coat should be well groomed, however do not penalise for a slight curl to the underbelly due to sweating or seasonal changes in coat density, length and texture.

Colour

All recognized British Shorthair colours and patterns are allowed and the British Longhair should conform to those colour standards.

Condition

Perfect physical condition, muscular with alert appearance.

SCALE OF POINTS

Self-Coloured

Head & Ears	20
Eyes	10
Body, Legs, & Paws	25
Tail	10
Coat	20
Texture & Length	
Colour	15
TOTAL	100

Non-Self (Patterned)

Head & Ears	20
Eyes	10
Body, Legs, & Paws	25
Tail	5
Coat	40
Texture & Length	
Colour & Pattern	
TOTAL	100

Faults:

1. Weak chin.
2. Pronounced whisker pads.
3. White hairs.
4. Ghost tabby markings. (In kittens).

Note: Ghost markings in kittens should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.

Withhold Challenge Certificate or First Place in Kitten Classes for:

1. Jaw and mouth deformities, tail deformities, and any other anatomical abnormality (i.e., mobile or protruding xiphisternum, umbilical hernia, etc).
2. Short or overlong flowing silky coats.
3. Pronounced nose stop, flat face or snub nose.
4. Unsound coat colour.
5. Incorrect eye colour or rims or flecks of contrasting colour (in adults).
6. Heavy tabby markings (except in red or cream).

Notes on Caramels and Apricots

Caramel is produced by the action of one or two dominant dilute modifier genes (Dm) on blue, lilac, and fawn, and on cream to produce apricot. The Dm gene is carried by black, chocolate, cinnamon and red, and can be passed along unnoticed, therefore, for many generations in dense-coloured cats.

A dense-coloured cat can carry the Dm gene and not show it, but a dilute coloured cat will either have the Dm gene and display it, or not be Dm at all.

For the Dm gene to show on a dilute cat, there needs to be dilute on both sides of the pedigree, as well as a silver gene.

Blue becomes blue-based caramel, seen as a brownish blue colour. Lilac becomes lilac-based caramel, seen as a brownish grey colour. Fawn becomes fawn-based caramel, seen as a warm beige colour. Cream becomes apricot (cream-based caramel), seen as a warm apricot colour.

All of these caramel colours are distinct with their soft metallic sheen over the coat, particularly on the hocks, and becomes more noticeable with maturity. When seen in good strong light, these caramel cats glow.

A caramel coated cat is distinctly not the dilute colour (blue, lilac, fawn, or cream) but is not as strong as the dense colour (black, chocolate, cinnamon, or red). The Dm gene modifies the dilute colour, effectively darkening the colour so that they appear to be a shade between the dense and dilute colours.

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