

CHINCHILLA

Last updated 1st November 2023

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be large, bold and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>15</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>15</u>
Body Ticking	To have level ticking extending evenly over the head and body, save for those areas defined as markings. The body colour is created by individual hairs consisting of: (1) a base colour that is wider and paler nearest to the skin, followed by (2) a band of darker base colour; (3) a white or cream tick narrower than the two bands of base colour, but significantly longer than is desirable in an Agouti; (4) a very small tip of dark base colour. The desired hair characteristics should give body ticking that has a muted, pastel shade and an even, long-ticked appearance. Base colour should be paler than on the corresponding Agouti without losing clarity of markings and the desired pigmentation of eyes, ears and pads.	<u>30</u>
Markings, of which:		<u>30</u>
Eye Circles, Nostrils, Jowls & Chest	To have pronounced and clearly defined white or cream markings as eye circles; around the nostril area; on the jowls, chest, belly and an area around the forelimb extending from the belly.	(15)
Belly Colour & Feet	Belly should be white or cream with no base colour showing through, and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side, other than an area around the forelimbs extending from the belly. Feet to be evenly ticked and should match the body colour.	(15)
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>10</u>

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Silver	Medium grey base with a darker band, then a white tick with darker (grey) tipping. White markings. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads grey.
Lemon	Medium grey base with a darker band, then a cream tick with darker (grey) tipping. Cream markings. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads grey.
Cinnamon	Light chocolate base with a darker band, then a white tick with darker (chocolate) tipping. White markings. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads pink/light chocolate.
Cream	Light chocolate base with a darker band, then a cream tick with darker (chocolate) tipping. Cream markings. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads pink/light chocolate.

GUIDANCE NOTES In judging Chinchillas, the emphasis must be on quality of ticking, markings, colour, type and condition. Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of quality or cobbyness.

Grooming is essential to produce the effect of even long-ticking on the body and sides of the cavy.

U/5 exhibits should be paler in colour than adults but must still retain the markings described. This should not be unduly penalised since it may clear as the cavy matures. Feet lighter than body colour should not be unduly penalised.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS Solid areas of white/cream within body ticking that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

SPECIFIC FAULTS Too dark a shade of body colour.
Uneven ticking.
Inappropriate toenail pigmentation.
Solid areas of white/cream within the body ticking, should be penalised according to extent.