

## RABBIT GLOSSARY

This is a glossary of words and terms specific to rabbits and rabbit showing. These are not necessarily the dictionary definitions.

**ABSCESS or BOIL**-A localized area of inflammation caused by an infection under the skin, in a gland, or in a hair follicle. It may produce localized swelling, heat, and redness. It is sometimes characterized by swollen, inflamed tissue, where pus gathers. A disqualification from competition.

**ADULT**-A mature rabbit of breeding age. For show classification, see senior.

**AGOUTI PATTERN**-A hair shaft that has three or more bands of color, with a definite break between each color. It usually has dark slate at the base, with two or more alternating light or dark bands of color, which is further interspersed with contrasting guard hairs. The head, feet, and ears usually have ticking. Eye circles, belly, under jaws, underside of tail, and triangle are much lighter (may be white in some cases) and do not carry ticking.

**ALBINO**-A white rabbit with pink eyes caused by a recessive gene.

**ARCH**-The gentle curvature of the spine, extending from the neck (or shoulders in some breeds) to the rear of the rabbit. This is best observed by viewing the animal in side profile.

**AWN FLUFF**-The soft, crimped, intermediate wool fibers ending with a straight tip. A type of wool fiber described in the Giant Angora standard.

**AWN HAIR**-The strong, straight, guard hair protruding above the undercoat in the Giant Angora.

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**BLAZE**-The white marking found on the face of a Dutch. It should be medium wide and wedge shaped, covering the nose, whisker bed, and tapering up to the ears, where it joins the hair line. The blaze is to continue to the cheeks and should be well rounded and follow the jaw line after passing the whisker bed.

**BLEMISH**-Any defect or fault which detracts from the appearance.

**BLOOM**-The vitality and finish of a coat in good condition.

**BOB TAIL**--A tail noticeably shorter than normal. A disqualification from competition.

**BOIL or ABSCESS**-A localized area of inflammation caused by an infection under the skin, in a gland, or in a hair follicle. It may produce localized swelling, heat, and redness. It is sometimes characterized by swollen, inflamed tissue, where pus gathers. A disqualification from competition.

**BONE**-The term used to describe the skeletal structure of a rabbit.

**BOOTS**-The colored markings on the feet and legs of Pointed Pattern rabbits.

**BOWED LEGS**-May be applied to the fore or hind legs. Bent like a bow. Legs that are curved outwardly or inwardly from the middle. A disqualification from competition.

**BREED**-A class of domestic rabbits that reproduces itself with distinctive characteristics, such as fur, markings, shape, and size.

**BREEDER**-(1) Anyone who raises a breed or variety of rabbits which complies with the Standard of Perfection. (2) A rabbit used primarily to produce offspring.

**BACK**-The top portion of the shoulders, loin, and hindquarters.

**BALANCE**-(1) Type--Shape or conformation. An orderly and pleasing arrangement of physical characteristics, so as to present a harmonious appearance. (2) Markings--Equal distribution of corresponding markings, such as color divisions of the Harlequin, or equal amounts of color on the cheeks of the Dutch. Equal distribution of color in the pattern and side markings of the Checkered Giant, English Spot, and Rhinelander.

**BAND**-An unbroken vertical circle of marking color around the body of the Harlequin.

**BANDING**-A hair shaft having various colors. Normally associated with an agouti coat.

**BANGS**-The longer wool appearing at the front base of the ears and top of the head in some wool breeds.

**BAR**-A semicircle of marking color, running vertically on the sides or body of the Harlequin.

**BARRED**-(1) Elongated spots which should be round. (As found in the side markings of the Rhinelander or English Spot, or the cheek spots of the Rhinelander, English Spot, or Checkered Giant.) (2) Light colored streaks or bars on the front or rear feet.

**BASE COLOR or UNDERCOLOR**-The fur color at the base of the fur shaft next to the skin.

**BELL EARS**-Ears that have large, heavy tips with a distinctive fall or lop.

**BELLY**-The abdomen, from the last rib to the pelvis, containing primarily the organs of digestion.

**BELLY COLOR**-The color on the underside of the rabbit extending from the forelegs to the crotch area.

**BREEDING CERTIFICATE**-A written certificate, issued by the owner of a stud buck, showing its pedigree and the date of breeding to a particular doe. It is issued as proof of the ancestry of the anticipated litter.

**BRINDLE**-An intermixture of two colors without definite pattern.

**BRINDLING**-The longer tan tipped guard hairs carried up the flanks and hindquarter of Tan Pattern rabbits.

**BROKEN COAT**-Fur with guard hairs missing or broken, exposing the undercoat. A coat that is affected by molt, exposing the undercoat.

**BUCK**-An intact male rabbit.

**BUCK TEETH**-See wolf teeth. A disqualification from competition.

**BULL DOG HEAD**-A short, broad, bold head, with a definite masculine appearance.

**BUTTERFLY**-A nose marking found on some marked breeds and Broken varieties. The wing portions cover the whisker bed and upper lip, with the body or nose fork extending up the center of the face.

**BUTTING TEETH**-A form of malocclusion, where the incisors meet evenly, without the upper incisors overlapping the lower incisors in proper structure. A disqualification from competition.

**CAKED TEAT OR BREAST**-The swollen, hard, milk-filled mammary gland caused by excess production of milk.

**CAP**-The marking line where lower ear color stops and joins head color. Specified in the Checkered Giant.

**CARRIAGE**-(1) The manner in which a rabbit carries itself. The style or characteristic pose of a rabbit. (2) The style in which a rabbit carries its ears.

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**CATARACT**-An opaque or white lens in either or both eyes. A disqualification from competition.

**CHAIN**-The arrangement of the spots on an English Spot, running from the neck to the midsection.

**CHARLIE**-An extremely lightly marked animal in marked breeds or Broken Groups. A Charlie usually has colored ears, light eye circles, and a "Charlie Chaplin" mustache-like marking. It is usually devoid of back and side markings.

**CHEEK SPOT**-A single, round spot of color on the cheek of marked breeds. It should center where the whisker emerges, below the eye.

**CHEEKS**-(1) The sides of the face, below the eyes. (2) The rounded color head marking that forms the blaze and carries down along the jawline of a Dutch.

**CHEST**-The front portion of the body between the forelegs, belly, and the neck.

**CHOPPED**-A body type fault in which there is an abrupt and sharp vertical fall from the top of the hip to the tail. Not well filled out and rounded.

**CLASSIFICATION**-A system of arranging the judging within different breeds.

**CLEAN**-(1) A term used on French Angora, Satin Angora, Jersey Wooly, and Fuzzy Lop head, ears, feet, and legs, denoting the presence of normal fur (absence of wool). (2) Well-formed markings without congestion or drags.

**COAT**-The fur covering of a rabbit.

**COBBY**-A short and stocky body type which is close coupled and very compact.

**COLD**-An infection localized in the nose, usually characterized by repeated sneezing and the discharge of a white purulent fluid from the nose. It is sometimes accompanied by matted fur on the inside of the front feet. A disqualification from competition.

**COLLAR**-(1) The area surrounding the neck (2) The marking connecting the triangle and the chest on a Tan.

**COMPATIBLE**-Normal eye color that complements or matches the body color.

**CONDITION**-The overall physical state of a rabbit in relation to health, cleanliness, fur, and grooming.

**CONJUNCTIVITIS**-Inflammation of the inner membrane of the eyelid and sometimes the portion of the membrane that covers the white of the eye. A disqualification from competition.

**COTTONY**-A very fine, soft textured fur or wool that lacks guard hair.

**COW HOCKS**-Hind legs that turn inward at the hock, causing the toe portion to turn outward from the body. A disqualification from competition, if severe.

**CRIMP**-The natural waviness of the fiber in a wool undercoat.

**CROWN**-A strong basal ridge of cartilage at the top of the head, forming the ear base on some lop eared breeds.

**CROWN SPOTS or PEA SPOTS**-Two spots of marking color at the inside base of the ears in Tan Pattern breeds.

**DEAD HAIRS**-Fur that lacks life. Caused by molting of dead coat.

**DEAD TAIL**-A tail that is hard and brittle due to the loss of circulation. Not a disqualification unless broken and out of alignment.

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**DEFINITION**-(1) The sharpness and clarity of a color break on a hair shaft, as in the ring color in Agouti fur. (2) The contrast between two or more colors.

**DENSITY**-The property or quality of a thick coat of fur. The number of fur fibers in a given area.

**DEPTH**-(1) The measurement downward from the top line of the body to the lowest portion of the body. (2) The term describing the extension of color down the hair shaft.

**DEVIATED SPINE**-A deviation in the spine (vertebrae of the neck and back) whereby the normal alignment of the bones is replaced by deformed, misshapen, or misaligned vertebrae. The condition can often be detected by gentle palpation of the vertebrae along the top line of the rabbit (usually detected in the shoulder area). A disqualification from competition.

**DEVIATED STERNUM**-A condition in which the connecting tissue of the ribs and/or breastbone fuse together forming an irregular sternum. Typically found at the lower end of the rib cage. Characterized by a lump or cone shaped bony protrusion, which may also extend up into the internal cavity of the animal. A disqualification from competition.

**DEWCLAW**-An extra toe or functionless digit on the inside of the front legs.

**DEWLAP**-A pendulous fold of loose skin that hangs from the throat. It is common in does. It should be in proportion to the total body size. A disqualification from competition in some breeds.

**DISQUALIFICATION or DISQUALIFICATION FROM COMPETITION**-One or more defects, deformities, or blemishes

that render a rabbit ineligible for competition or registration.

**DOE**-An intact female rabbit.

**DRAG**-The intrusion of a color marking into a white marking area.

**EAR BASE**-The area where the ears attach to the skull or head.

**EAR CANKER**-An inflamed, scabby condition, inside the ear. It is caused by an infection of the ear canal by an ear mite. A disqualification from competition.

**EAR CARRIAGE**-The holding or carriage displayed by a rabbit's ears when it is in a relaxed, normal pose.

**EAR LACING**-A colored line of fur that outlines the sides and tips of the ears.

**EAR MARK**-A permanent ink tattoo in a rabbit's left ear for the purpose of identification.

**EXTENSION**-(1) The term describing the length of leg and limb.

(2) The term describing the depth of color carried down a hair shaft.

**EYE BAND**-A thin marking that forms a complete outline of the eye. It is found in the Blanc de Hotot and Dwarf Hotot.

**EYE CIRCLE**-A round marking surrounding the eye.

**EYE COLOR**-The circle of color that surrounds the pupil of the eye, also known as the iris.

**EYE STAIN**-Splotches or streaks of color around the eyes in Pointed Pattern rabbits.

**FAULT**-A deviation from perfection or a physical imperfection.

**FAKING**-Any dyeing, plucking, trimming, or clipping so as to alter appearance. For example, coloring toenails, or powdering and indiscriminate use of grooming preparations designed to alter the natural condition or appearance). A disqualification from competition.

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**FEATHER**-(1) Small colored drag off the top of the eye circle. Usually associated with the English Spot, Rhinelander, or Checkered Giant.  
**FEATHERING**-Any drag in the coloration of a Dwarf Hotot eye band.

**FELTING**-Wool fibers that have become interwoven during natural growth.

**FIBER**-The individual hair that combines with others to compose a coat of fur/wool.

**FINE COAT**-A coat of fur too fine in texture, lacking body. The guard hairs are weak and thin in structure. It is lacking the proper amount of guard hairs.

**FINISH**-The desired degree of perfection in condition. Fully prime in coat, color, and flesh.

**FLABBY**-The condition of a rabbit where the skin hangs loosely by its own weight. Not trim, shapely, or firm of flesh.

**FLANGE**-The thin outer portion of the backside of the ear.

**FLANK**-The side of the rabbit between the rib and the hip, above the belly.

**FLAT COAT**-A coat of fur lying too close to the body. Lacks spring or body as noted by touch. Usually a fine coat coupled with lack of density.

**FLAT SHOULDERS**-A trait that occurs when the top line over the shoulders is noticeably parallel to the surface of the judging table. A lack of continuous arch from the neck over the shoulders.

**FLEA**-A small wingless bloodsucking insect that may feed on rabbits. A disqualification from competition.

**FLEECE**-The wool covering the rabbit, including all growing fibers.  
**FLYBACK**-A coat of fur that quickly returns to its smooth normal position when stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders. See ARBA Commercial Normal Fur Standard.

**FOOT**-The portion of the skeleton on which the rabbit walks or stands. On the foreleg, that portion below the pastern or ankle. On the rear leg, that portion below the hock.

**FOREHEAD**-The front part of the head between the eyes and the base of the ears, also known as the brow.

**FOREIGN COLOR**-Any color of fur, nails, or eyes differing from that called for in the Standard of Perfection for the breed or variety. A disqualification from competition.

**FOREQUARTER**-The portion of the body, starting with the neck, back to, and including the last rib.

**FRECKLE**-A foreign colored pigment on the skin in the nose and mouth area. A disqualification in some breeds such as Dutch.

**FRINGES**-The wool on some breeds appearing on the ears and falling between the tassels and bangs.

**FRYER**-A young rabbit ready for market.

**FUR**-The hair or coat of a rabbit.

**FURNISHINGS**-The tassels, fringes on the ears, the bangs, and the head side trimmings on some wool breeds.

**GESTATION**-The length of time between conception and birth (usually 31 days). The carrying of young.

**GLOSSY**-The reflection, luster, or brightness from a naturally healthy fur. A natural property of fur, sometimes improved by grooming.

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**GRADUATION**-The increase in the size of the spots in the side pattern/sweep of an English Spot.

**GROUP**-A broader classification than variety, usually applied to color pattern groupings.

**GUARD HAIR**-The longer, coarser protruding hair of the coat, which offers protection to the undercoat. It furnishes wearing quality and resilience to the coat. Guard hairs in Rex fur should not protrude, ideally it would be the same length as the undercoat.

**HAIRLINE**-The narrow white line running between the ears of a Dutch, connecting the blaze to the neck marking.

**HARLEQUIN PATTERN**-Six markings and their alternation-ears, face, chest, forelegs, rear legs, and body.

**HEAD MARKINGS**-The Butterfly, Eye Circles, Cheek Spots, and Ear Markings of the Checkered Giant, English Spot, and Rhinelander.

**HERNIA OR RUPTURE**-A protrusion of an organ or part (as the intestine) through connective tissue or through a wall of the cavity (as of the abdomen) in which it is normally enclosed. A disqualification from competition.

**HERRINGBONE**-The serrated edge to the spine marking in the English Spot.

**HIND LEG**-Consists of the foot, hock, stifle (knee), and hip joint.

**HINDQUARTERS**-The rear portion or section of the body from the last rib. Composed of the loin, hips, hind legs, and rump.

**HIP**-The joint that attaches the hind legs to the trunk of the body.

**HOCK**-The area of the foot that carries the weight of the rabbit.

**IMPORT**-A rabbit in the US or Canada that was born in a foreign country.

**INSIDE OF EAR**-The concave portion of the ear.

**INTERMEDIATE**-Terminology used in breeds having 6 showroom classes. A rabbit 6 months of age and under 8 months of age, or meeting weight requirements of the breed standard for that age group. Only breeds with a minimum ideal senior weight of 9 pounds and over will have an intermediate class.

**IRIS**-The colored portion of the eye surrounding the pupil.

**JUNIOR**-A rabbit less than 6 months of age.

**JOWL**-One of the lateral halves of the mandible.

**KINDLE**-The act of giving birth by rabbits.

**LACED**-Marked with streaks of color.

**LACTATE**-To produce milk.

**LAP SPOTS**-Intensification of belly color in the area of the groin (inside the hind legs, on the belly).

**LEG BAND**-A small metal ring on the hind leg of a rabbit used for identification in some foreign countries.

**LICE**-Plural of louse: A small, usually sluggish insect that sometimes lives on rabbits and sucks their blood. A disqualification from competition.

**LIGHT TOENAIL**-Toenail showing some pigmentation but not the full color.

**LOIN**-The portion of the back on each side of the vertebrae from the last rib to the hip joint.

**LOOSE COAT**-A coat with fur not set tightly in the skin, which is slipping and breaking out.

**LOPPED EARS**-Pendulous ears, carried below horizontal rather than upright.

**LUSTER**-The brightness and brilliance of fur.

**MALOCCLUSION**-Teeth having the lower incisors extending in

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front of the upper incisors or meeting with no overlap. This condition may be hereditary and may also be known as buck or wolf teeth. A disqualification from competition.

**MANDOLIN**-Having the appearance of a mandolin. Body arch starting at the back of the shoulders, rather than the nape of the neck. Body shape typical of semi-arched breeds.

**MANGE**-A skin disease caused by parasitic mites. May be characterized by itching, lesions, scabs, and loss of hair. A disqualification from competition.

**MARBLING**-A mottling of the eye color.

**MARKED**-A rabbit which is broken up by an orderly placement of another color(s). Also includes rabbits that carry the Tan Pattern.

**MASK**-The nose and muzzle color extending further up the face than a butterfly marking.

**MASSIVE**-Giving the impression of being large, bulky, heavy, and ponderous.

**MASTITIS**-An inflammation of the mammary gland(s). A disqualification from competition.

**MATS**-Areas of entangled wool or fur.

**MATTED**-Wool or fur entangled in a thick mass.

**MEALY**-Off colored stray hairs in a colored pattern giving the appearance of being powdered or sprinkled with meal.

**MEAT PEN**-A group of three rabbits under the age of 10 weeks, each weighting between 3 and 5 pounds.

**MEATY**-The quality of being able to carry a good portion of meat in proportion to the bone, size, and type of the rabbit. A noticeably well proportioned meatiness of the forequarters, back, loin, and hindquarters.

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**PARASITE**-An organism that lives on, or within, the host animal. Examples are mites, lice, fleas, etc. A disqualification from competition.

**PATCH**-A small section of fur.

**PAUNCH**-The prominent portion of the abdomen.

**PEA SPOTS OR CROWN SPOTS**--Two spots of marking color at the inside base of the ears in Tan Patterned breeds.

**PEARL**-The surface or intermediate color band of some varieties of rabbits, which is off-white in color.

**PEDIGREE**-A genealogy of the male and female ancestors, showing the date of birth, the parents, grandparents, and great grandparents. It also contains other information such as color, weight, registration numbers, etc.

**PEG TEETH**-Two small residual incisors just behind the normal top incisors. May be incorrectly used to indicate butting teeth.

**PEGGED TEETH**-Teeth which only meet and do not achieve the required upper incisor overbite of the lower incisors. A disqualification from competition.

**PELT**-The hide of the animal after it is removed.

**PENCIL LINE**-A protrusion of fur, not including any skin, across the throat and under the chin. Not a dewlap.

**PIGEON BREASTED**-A narrow chest with a protruding "V" shaped breast bone. A disqualification from competition.

**PINCHED HINDQUARTERS**-Hindquarters tapering towards the tail, giving a pinched appearance.

**PLUSH**-Dense, fine hair with a very soft feel.

**POINTS**-A numerical scale, as listed in the Standard, showing the comparative value of each feature to the ideal.

**MID SECTION**-The portion of the body from the 6th rib to the rear legs.

**MITE**-A small insect that often infests rabbits. A disqualification from competition.

**MOLT**-The act of shedding or changing fur.

**MOON EYE**-(Wall Eye) An eye that is whitish on the surface (cornea). Having a milky film over the eye. A disqualification from competition.

**MOTTLED/MOTTLING**-(1) A pattern of eye color exhibiting streaks of differing color or shading (also called marbling). (2) A blotching or streaking of color on the fur of a rabbit.

**MUTATION**-The sudden change of a physical characteristic caused by an alteration of the organization of a gene. The best known mutations are the Rex and Satin fur structures.

**MUZZLE**-The lower part of the face and nose of the rabbit.

**NECK**-(1) That part of the rabbit connecting the head to the body. (2) A wedge shaped marking that is a portion of the collar, behind the ears, on a Dutch.

**NOSEFORK**-The body portion of the butterfly marking.

**NOSTRILS**-The two openings of the nose leading to the internal structures of the head.

**OFF COLORED**-A departure from the desired color of fur, toenails, or eyes (see Foreign Color).

**OPEN COAT**-Non-wool coat (excluding Silver Fox) lacking the ability to return to its natural position when stroked towards the head due to molt.

**PACKED**-Wool that is compacted or felted.

**POINTED PATTERN** -The ears, tail, nose, front feet, rear feet, and leg markings in Californian, Himalayan, or Pointed Whites.

**POOR COAT**-Fur not in good condition due to molt, stain, ill health, or poor genetics.

**POT BELLY**-A distended condition of the abdominal cavity, usually found in young rabbits. A disqualification from competition.

**PRE-JUNIOR**-An animal under 3 months of age that is showable only when the breed's showroom classes specifically allows pre-juniors. They are to be shown separately by sex and variety. A pre-junior animal cannot compete in fur classes or be considered for BOV, BOSV, BOG, BOSG, BOB, or BOS.

**PRIME**-An animal that exhibits ideal condition of flesh and coat.

**PRIME LINE**-A line of fur that develops down the middle of the back and rump in a finished coat.

**PUREBRED**-A term used loosely to designate rabbits which closely approximate the requirements of the standards for their breed, and have done so for a number of generations.

**PURULENT DISCHARGE**-A discharge of white pus, emanating from the nose of a rabbit or from an abscess on the rabbit. A disqualification from competition.

**RACY**-Slim, trim, alert, and hare-like in appearance. Long and slender in body and limbs.

**REX**-A rabbit showing a genetic recessive variation in which the guard hairs are very short.

**RIBS**-The curved portions of the sides, immediately behind and under the shoulders.

**RING COLOR**-The color of the intermediate portion of a hair shaft

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in Agouti Patterned animals.

**ROASTER**-A rabbit under 6 months of age and between 5 and 8 pounds.

**ROLLBACK**-A gradual return of the fur to its normal position when stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders. Slightly slower return than a flyback coat.

**ROMAN NOSE**-A nose whose bridge is so comparatively high as to form a slightly convex line from the forehead to the tip of the nose.

**RUN**-An intrusion of white color into a colored marking area on a marked breed.

**RUMP**-The upper, rounded portion of the hindquarters.

**RUPTURE OR HERNIA**-A protrusion of an organ or part (as the intestine) through connective tissue or through a wall of the cavity (as of the abdomen) in which it is normally enclosed. A disqualification from competition.

**RUST**-The reddish-brown coloration of the fur usually found on the sides, flanks, or feet of rabbits. It may be caused by overexposure to sunlight or dirty hutches.

**SADDLE**-(1) The upper portion of the back. (2) A marking on Dutch where the white fur ceases and the colored fur begins on the upper part of the body.

**SALT AND PEPPER**-A flat appearance of black and white ticking, as found on Chinchilla, caused by the lack of contrast and desired waviness in the ticking. This is due to a weakness of color on the tips of the guard hairs.

**SATIN**-A mutation causing a greater translucency of the outer hair shell allowing the pigment granules to show through more clearly and reflect more light producing sheen.

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**SIDE TRIMMINGS**-The wool appearing along the side of the head and face on some wool breeds.

**SILVERING**-Fur having the appearance of a silvery gloss or luster from the abundance of silver white or silver tipped guard hairs evenly distributed throughout the fur, presenting an overall shiny or silvery appearance.

**SIMPLE MALOCCLUSION**-A condition where the top and bottom teeth butt together without establishing an overbite. A disqualification from competition.

**SINGLE FRYER**-Meat class for a rabbit under 10 weeks of age and weighting from 3 to 5 pounds.

**SLIPPED CROWN**-Placement of the crown too far forward, or too far back, on the head of some lop breeds, causing the ear carriage to be misplaced.

**SLIPPING COAT**-A coat of fur that is shedding or molting.

**SLOBBERS**-Excessive salivation creating wet or extremely moist and unsightly fur around the mouth, lower jaws, and forelegs. A disqualification from competition.

**SMUT**-(1) A dark, sooty appearing surface color, usually formed by a large number of dark guard hairs. Found in many rabbits that carry the genetic factor of red. (2) Pelt stain found in Pointed Pattern rabbits. (3) The nose marking found on Himalayans.

**SNIPEY**-An elongated, narrow head, usually terminating in a pinched muzzle.

**SOLID PATTERN**-A classification, for judging purposes, within a breed. Generally includes all non-Broken animals, as found in Lops.

**SORE HOCK**-An ulceration of the foot pad which can occur on

**SCREW TAIL**-See Wry Tail. A disqualification from competition.

**SELF PATTERN**-A rabbit with the same color over the body, head, ears, feet, legs, and tail.

**SENIOR**-A rabbit 6 months of age or over in those breeds having 4 showroom classes. A rabbit 8 months of age or over in breeds having 6 showroom classes. An animal having reached minimum senior breed weight, if allowed in the breed standard.

**SHADED PATTERN**-The shaded pattern is to show a gradual and discernible transition of a basic color; usually from dark to light. Darker color most often appears on the back, head, ears, tail, feet, and leg areas, then shades to a lighter color on the sides and belly.

**SHADOW BARS**-A weakness of color in the fur on either front or hind feet, appearing in the form of light colored bars or streaks running across the feet and legs.

**SHAPE**-The general conformation of the overall appearance of a rabbit, as shown by body structure. This is a synonym for type.

**SHEEN**-The principal feature of the Satin mutation. A bright, natural luster attributed to the unique structure of the guard hair shaft. Having a glass-like, translucent hair shell with the ability to reflect light. It is sometimes used in error to describe fur condition on an animal with normal fur.

**SHOULDER**-That portion of the body from the neck back through the 6th rib and the upper joint of the foreleg.

**SIDE DEMARCATION**-The distinct even line separating the body color from the tan color on a Tan.

**SIDE MARKING**-The spots or group of spots on the side of Checkered Giants, English Spots, and Rhinelanders.

either the hind or front feet. A disqualification from competition if infected or bleeding.

**SPLAYED (SPRADDLED LEGGED)**-A condition where the rabbit cannot hold the front or back legs under the body. The legs spread out from the body. A disqualification from competition.

**SPINE MARKING**-The strip of color beginning at the ear base and running in an unbroken line along the back to the tip of the tail found in Checkered Giants, English Spots, and Rhinelanders.

**SPLIT PENIS**-A disqualification from competition where the penis exhibits an opening that extends more than 1/2 of the way up or down the shaft, allowing the walls to fold open. Genitalia may resemble a doe.

**SPOT**-(1) A distinct and noticeable cluster of white or colored hairs forming a definite spot. (2) A foreign color in the iris or on the surface of the cornea of the eye.

**STANDING FUR**-The fur type unique to the Silver Fox. A long, dense fur that remains upright when stroked from the rump toward the head. It must be stroked from the head toward the rump to return to its normal position.

**STAPLE LENGTH**-The length of the Angora fiber or wool.

**STEWER**-A rabbit over 6 months of age and over 8 pounds.

**STOP**-The marking on each rear hock of a Dutch.

**STRAIN**-A genetically related bloodline possessing distinguishable characteristics such as type, color, or coat, and the ability to pass the characteristics to the offspring.

**STRAY SPOT**-Any marking spot occurring in an area that should be devoid of markings.

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**SURFACE COLOR**-The top color of the fur, lying in its normal position.

**TAIL CARRIAGE**-The positioning of the tail, relative to the body, when a rabbit is allowed to move freely.

**TAN PATTERN**-A rabbit having the head, saddle, back, rump, sides, upper portion of the tail, outer portion of the ears, hind legs, and the front portion of the front legs of an accepted breed color. Eye circles, nostrils, jowls, chest, belly, flanks, triangle, under portion of the tail, pea or crown spots, inner edge of the ears, and inside of hind legs are to be of a contrasting color. A straight line of demarcation along the flanks should divide the belly color from the body color, and the body color from the contrasting leg color. Brindling or silvering is to be carried around the rump and well up the sides from the flanks.

**TASSELS**-The longer wool on top of the ears of some wool breeds.

**TATTOO**-A permanent identification mark in the left ear or both ears of a rabbit.

**TEXTURE**-The tactile surface characteristics, or feel, of fur.

**TICKED GROUP**-A rabbit having guard hairs throughout the coat, either solid or tipped, with a color distinct from the under color or surface color.

**TICKING**-Longer guard hairs, throughout the coat, of a color distinct from the underwool or body fur.

**TINT**-A slight coloring or dusting of one color on another color. A variation in the intensity of a color.

**TOPLINE**-The profile of the shoulders, back, and hindquarters, when viewed from the side.

**TRIANGLE**-The small area behind the ears, in the shape of a triangle, which is generally lighter in color than the rest of the coat.

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A feature of Tan and Agouti Patterned animals.

**TRIMMINGS**-The wool growth on the ears and cheeks of wool breeds.

**TUCKED UP**-(1) A trim appearance, with the flank and belly gathered in closely to form an arch when the rabbit is in a sitting position. (2) A posing failure caused by pushing the hindquarters too far forward.

**TUFTS**-Wool and guard hair on the tips of the ears-not so long or heavy as to be considered furnishings.

**TUMOR**-An abnormal growth of tissue that possesses no physiological function. A disqualification from competition.

**TYPE**-The physical characteristics of conformation or structure unique to each recognized breed.

**UNDERCOAT OR UNDERFUR**-A growth of short fur partly concealed by longer and coarser guard hairs.

**UNDERCOLOR OR BASE COLOR**-The color at the base of the fur shaft or next to the skin.

**UNDERCUT**-(1)The belly marking on a Dutch rabbit. A continuation of the saddle marking to the underside of the rabbit. (2) Where the skeletal or muscular structure does not fill the lower hindquarter.

**UNDERWOOL**-The shortest wool fiber, lying at the base of the wool coat. The proportion of under wool to other fibers may be a distinguishing characteristic of some wool breeds.

**UNDERFUR OR UNDERCOAT**-A growth of short fur partly concealed by longer and coarser guard hairs.

**UNWORTHY OF AN AWARD**-A notation made by a judge on an animal that deviates from the standard to such a degree that it does not represent that breed's characteristics.

**USABLE PORTION OF PELT**-The portion of the pelt that remains after the removal of the dewlap, head, tail, feet, and legs.

**VARIETY**-A division within a breed or group determined by color.

**VENT DISEASE**-A venereal disease in rabbits that affects both sexes. This is indicated by a scabby, reddened sex organ, often exuding pus. A disqualification from competition.

**WALL EYE (MOON EYE)**-An eye that is whitish on the surface (cornea). Having a milky film over the eye. A disqualification from competition.

**WEEPING EYE**-An abnormal discharge from the eye, resulting in severe matting in the area below the eye.

**WEBBED**-Wool fibers that are beginning to felt or mat. A loose tangling of fibers that can usually be removed by grooming.

**WHITE TOENAIL**-A nail without pigmentation. Showing only the pink cast of the blood vessel.

**WIDE BAND GROUP**-Wide band animals show the same coloration over the body, head, ears, tail, and feet. They may show lighter coloration on the eye circles, inside of ears, underside of tail, jowls, and belly area.

**WOLF TEETH**-Protruding or elongated incisors in either the upper and/or lower jaw, caused by malocclusion. An improper alignment of the upper and lower teeth, which prevents normal wear. A disqualification from competition.

**WOOL**-The balanced combination of guard hairs to underwool as determined by density, texture, and length for each wooled breed.

**WOOL CAP**-The short, dense wool, protruding from the base of the ears forward.

**WRY NECK**-Carriage of the head to one side at an angular plane, instead of the normal carriage in a vertical plane. A disqualification from competition.

**WRY TAIL**-An abnormal tail, bent, carried, or twisted permanently to one side. A corkscrew tail with one or more turns. A disqualification from competition.

**YELLOW FAT**--Body fat that is yellow in color. The fat is not harmful, but undesirable from a sales standpoint.

## WORKING STANDARDS

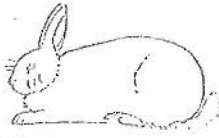
The working standard of a proposed breed or variety is the property of the breeder/sponsor until such time as the new breed or variety is officially accepted by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. into the Standard of Perfection. At that time, it becomes the property of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. It must be approved by the breeder/sponsor, the ARBA Standards Committee, and the ARBA Board of Directors before final acceptance is consummated. The working standard may be clarified, or changed, upon agreement between the breeder/sponsor and the ARBA Standards Committee. The changes in the working standard will become official upon publication in the DOMESTIC RABBITS magazine. Publication of the working standard allows the new breed or variety to be shown at ARBA shows, but they may only compete against themselves.

In the case of a new variety, they are to be judged at the conclusion of the breed and may not compete for any breed specials, such as Best of Breed or Best Opposite Sex of Breed. Working standards that have been published in the DOMESTIC RABBITS magazine do not need to be furnished by the exhibitor. Working standards for breeds or

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BASIC HANDLING AND BREEDING FAULTS FOUND IN COMMERCIAL AND OTHER BREEDS

(See specific breed standard for posing and handling suggestions)



Tucked under too far spoiling basic type. Head trifle small.



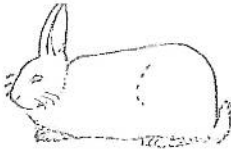
Stretched out too far to rear, making rump slope off, spoiling depth and type.



Low over mid-section (sway-backed).



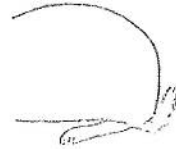
Low in shoulder, good depth of hip, but rained balance.



High point behind center of hip, causing hips to chop off. Rather flat top line.



High point forward of center of hip causing hip to slope off instead of rounding off.



Cow-Hocked Hind Feet



Good Parallel Hind Feet



Side Carried Tail



Screw Tail



Good Tail Carriage



Bowed Limbs, Outward

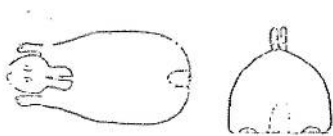


Bowed Limbs, Inward



Good, Straight Limbs

TOP & END VIEWS OF GOOD AND BAD TYPE FEATURES



Narrow in shoulders, hips lacking roundness, pinched and sloping off at top.



Shoulders too wide for pinched back end. Slightly undercut in hindquarters.



Narrow in shoulders and mid-section. Valley or low at center of hips.



Weak at mid-section and loin. Rough and protruding hip bones.



Trifle beefy in shoulders, nice, full width rump, but flat over top of hindquarters.



Very well balanced throughout, showing nice taper from front to back, full back end, with well rounded top.

### Malocclusion

The incisors of the rabbit elongate continually throughout the entire life of the animal. The exact angle of the occlusive surface "bite" of the animal is very important to insure that the incisors wear evenly during the mastication process. The normal "bite", occlusive surface of the rabbit (Figure #1), is that the upper incisors slide over or in "front of" the lower incisors. Any position of the incisors other than described is malocclusion and a disqualification. Malocclusion, often called "Buck Teeth" or "Wolf Teeth" (Figure #2), is easily determined. However, a simpler form of malocclusion, and just as important to the breeder, is called "butting" (Figure #3). This is a condition where the upper incisors are directly over the lower incisors. This condition in many foreign countries is called "Trap Teeth." These conditions are found most commonly in the breeds with "extremely rounded" heads, such as the Lops (Holland, Mini, French), Dutch, and Netherland Dwarfs, however, these conditions may be found in any breed of rabbit.



#1



#2



#3



# CALIFORNIAN



## SCHEDULE OF POINTS

<b>GENERAL TYPE</b> .....	<b>65</b>
Body.....	58
Hindquarters.....	22
Midsection.....	19
Shoulders.....	17
Head.....	3
Ears.....	2
Eyes.....	0
Feet & Legs.....	2
Tail.....	0
<b>FUR</b> .....	<b>20</b>
<b>COLOR &amp; MARKINGS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>CONDITION</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> .....	<b>100</b>

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**HINDQUARTERS**-Points 22: Hindquarters are to be broad, deep, smooth, and well rounded, with well filled, firm flesh. Lower and back sides are to be well filled. Hindquarters are to be slightly wider and deeper than shoulders, with enough depth and width to indicate roundness when viewed from any direction. The loin is to be broad and deep, with enough width to blend the hindquarters and midsection.

**Faults**-Narrow; flat; pinched; undercut; chopped, bony rump; weak loin; protruding hip bones; rough over spine.

**MIDSECTION**-Points 19: Rib section to gradually rise from front to hips. It is to be broad and deep enough to balance with shoulders and hips. Midsection is to be well rounded, with as much firm flesh as possible down the sides.

**Faults**-Narrow; flat; rough; not well filled.

**SHOULDERS**-Points 17: Shoulders are to be well developed, with firm flesh. They are to have good depth and width. Shoulders are to be slightly lower and narrower than the hips. They are to rise from the front of the neck with a smooth taper towards the high point.

**Faults**-Too narrow or too wide to balance with hindquarters.

Excessive fat or loose, flabby flesh over shoulders.

**HEAD**-Points 3: The head is to be well shaped and medium full. It is to be carried erect on a short neck and set close to the body. Buck heads are to be a little fuller than does.

**Faults**-Long, slim head; pinched nose.

**EARS**-Points 2: Length is to be in proportion to size of the body. They are to be well set on the head, strong at base, and carried in a straight, upright position.

## SHOWROOM CLASSES & WEIGHTS

**Senior Bucks**-8 months of age and over, weight 8 to 10 pounds. Ideal weight 9 pounds.

**Senior Does**-8 months of age and over, weight 8½ to 10½ pounds. Ideal weight 9½ pounds.

**Intermediate Bucks**-Under 8 months of age, not over 9 pounds.

**Intermediate Does**-Under 8 months of age, not over 9½ pounds.

**Junior Bucks**-Under 6 months of age, not over 8 pounds. Minimum weight 5½ pounds.

**Junior Does**-Under 6 months of age, not over 8½ pounds. Minimum weight 5½ pounds.

**Pre-Junior Bucks & Does**-Under 3 months of age. Not over 5½ pounds.

**NOTE:** Pre-Juniors are not to count in show display.

**NOTE:** Juniors and Intermediates which exceed maximum weight limits may be shown in higher age classifications. No animal may be shown in a lower age classification than its true age.

## GENERAL TYPE

**BODY**-Points 58: The body shall be of medium length, with depth of body to approximately equal width. It shall have good depth of hindquarters and well developed shoulders, with the shoulders being slightly lower and narrower than the hips, forming a slight taper. The back is to rise gradually from the nape of the neck to the high point over the hips. To be plump and firm of flesh.

**Faults**-Racy, mandolin, or any type away from a plump, firm, meaty body. Cut severely for shoulders wider than hips; long, narrow head; extra long neck; flatness over back, especially over hips; rough, bony, protruding hips.

**Faults**-Heavy; open; spoon shaped; weak ear base.

**EYES**-Points 0: Eyes are to be bright and bold.

**FEET & LEGS**-Points 2: Bone is to be medium in size, with rather short legs preferred. Toenails should be as dark as possible. Light colored nails, showing pigmentation, must match on that foot and the corresponding foot.

**Faults**-Long or heavy bone.

**Disqualifications from Competition**-One or more white toenails, or those that carry no color other than the pink cast shed by the blood vessels.

**TAIL**-Points 0: The tail is to be straight and carried erect. Length and size is to be in proportion to the body.

**FUR**-Points 20: (Flyback) Per ARBA Commercial Normal Fur Standard.

**COLOR & MARKINGS**-Points 5: Californians are to have a colored nose, ears, feet, and tail. Color is to be as near black as possible. Eye stains or colored spots confined to the dewlap are permissible. Body color is to be pure white. Eyes-Pink.

**Faults**-Any other color.

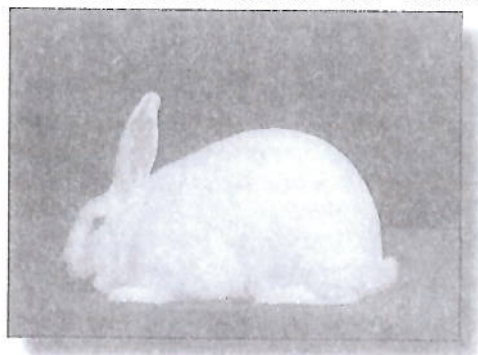
**Disqualifications from Competition**-Any color or smut on the usable portion of the pelt. Color above the elbow joint of the front leg. Color on the rear legs is not to extend more than 2 inches above the hock joint, with the fur in its normal position. Complete absence of color on the nose, ears, feet, or tail. Definite clean white spot(s) in colored markings. Any Tan Pattern marking appearing in a Californian marking.

**CONDITION**-Points 10: Per ARBA definition.

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## NEW ZEALAND

VARIETIES: BLACK--BROKEN--RED--WHITE



### SCHEDULE OF POINTS

<b>GENERAL TYPE</b> .....	60
Hindquarters.....	20
Midsection.....	18
Shoulders.....	17
Head & Ears.....	5
Feet & Legs.....	0
<b>FUR</b> .....	15
<b>COLOR</b> .....	15
<b>CONDITION</b> .....	10
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> .....	100

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## SHOWROOM CLASSES & WEIGHTS

**Senior Bucks**-8 months of age and over, weight 9 to 11 pounds. Ideal weight 10 pounds.

**Senior Does**-8 months of age and over, weight 10 to 12 pounds. Ideal weight 11 pounds.

**Intermediate Bucks**-6 to 8 months of age, not over 10 pounds.

**Intermediate Does**-6 to 8 months of age, not over 11 pounds.

**Junior Bucks & Does**-Under 6 months of age, not over 9 pounds.

Minimum weight 4½ pounds.

**Pre-Junior Bucks & Does**-Under 3 months of age, not over 6 pounds. Bucks and does to be judged separately. Each color to be judged separately.

**NOTE:** Juniors and Intermediates which exceed maximum weight limits may be shown in higher age classifications. No animal may be shown in a lower age classification than its true age.

### GENERAL TYPE

**BODY**--The ideal type should create an impression of balance and uniformity in the mind. The animal must exemplify meat producing qualities. It is to have well rounded hips, well filled loin, and ribs carrying forward to combine with shoulders that balance with the rest of the body. The shoulders should blend smoothly into the midsection, and the midsection should blend smoothly into the hindquarters. The body should be of medium length, with good depth. When viewed from the side, the top body-line should start immediately at the base of the ears and rise in a continuous curve to the high point over the center of the hips and then fall in a smooth curve downward to the base of the tail. When viewed from above, the sides should taper slightly from hindquarters toward the shoulders. A small dewlap is permitted on does.

**Faults**-A late start in the top line.

**HINDQUARTERS**-Points 20: The hindquarters are to be broad, smooth, well filled with firm flesh, and with the lower sides of the hips well developed. Depth should equal width, consistent with a well rounded top.

**MIDSECTION**-Points 18: The midsection is to be broad, firm, meaty, and carry as much flesh as possible on both sides of the spine. The side appearance should be of good depth and conform with the width of body. The belly should be firm and free from potty appearance.

**SHOULDERS**-Points 17: The shoulders are to be well developed, with good depth and width.

**Faults**-Narrow, flat or low shoulders; swayback or mandolin type; long, narrow body or extremely short coupled body; chopped off hindquarters; hips undercut; protruding hips; rough spine; loose, flabby skin; excessively fat over shoulders.

**HEAD & EARS**-Points 5: The head is to be full, with well filled face and jaws, presenting a slight curvature between the eyes and nose. The size of the head should balance and conform with the body and be more massive in bucks than does. It should be set closely on the shoulders, with the neck as short as possible. Ears are to be medium thick, well shaped, in proportion to head and body, and with well rounded tips. They should be well set on the head, with a good heavy ear base, and carried erect.

**Faults**-Long, narrow head; extreme curvature between eyes and nose; pinched muzzle; long, thin, or pointed ears; spread ear carriage.

**FEET & LEGS**-Points 0: Bone is to be straight, medium heavy, and

medium length. Hind legs and feet are to be full, firm, and stout. All toenails on Red and Black varieties are to be uniform and as dark as possible.

**Faults**-Thin foot pads.

**Disqualification from Competition**-Extremely fine bone.

**FUR**-Points 15: (Flyback) To conform to the ARBA Commercial Normal Fur Standard.

**COLOR**-Points 15:

**BLACK**-Color is to be a uniform, jet black throughout. Undercolor is to be dark slate blue. **Eyes**--Dark brown.

**Faults**-Stray white hairs; brownish cast.

**Disqualifications from Competition**-Patch(es) of excessive white hair; very conspicuous stray white hairs; excessive brownish cast; white shadow bars on front or hind feet.

**BROKEN GROUP**-For the Broken Group, the points allotted are to be divided equally between color and markings.

Brokens are to include any recognized variety of the breed, or variety within a group, in conjunction with white. Colored sections on Brokens are to match the standard for the colored variety.

**Color and Pattern**-Brokens are to have both ears colored, with color around the eyes, and on the nose. (No preference given for a full butterfly over an evenly balanced nose marking.) The body pattern may be spotted, with individual colored spots or patches over the back, sides, and hips; or a blanket pattern with color starting at or near the neck, and continuing over the back, sides, and hips. The preference is for an evenly balanced pattern. Toenails may be white, colored, or any combination of the two.

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Eyes-Color to correspond with the eye color specified under the respective solid colored variety.

**Faults**-Unbalanced nose marking; excessive white in the ears; unbalanced body markings; uneven color. Color, in the judge's opinion, which is more than 50 percent.

**Disqualifications from Competition**-Absence of color on the nose (Note: Color appearing in any area where a butterfly would normally occur satisfies the requirement for a nose marking), around the eye(s), on the ear(s), or on the body. Eye color other than called for. Excessive scattered white hairs in the colored section

Foreign colored spots. Color, in the judge's opinion, which is less than 10 percent. No disqualification for a white spot in a colored section.

**RED**-Color is to be a bright reddish sorrel, but not so dark as to reach a mahogany red. Color shall carry as deep down the hair shaft as possible. The belly color should approximate the top color. White on the underside of the tail, or on front and rear feet pads is permitted.

Eyes-Brown.

**Faults**-Light or dark ticking, when sufficient to produce a frosty or smudgy effect; white hairs in pelt; large, white eye circles.

**Disqualifications from Competition**-A general or marked departure from the standard color, to the extent of being mahogany red or a very pale yellowish shade. Extremely heavy ear lacing. White shadow bars on front or hind feet.

**WHITE**-Color is to be pure white. Eyes-Pink.

**Faults**-Dirt or hutch stain.

**CONDITION**-Points 10: Per ARBA definition, with special emphasis on firmness of flesh.