

MUNCHKIN (*Longhair [MUL]*) (*Shorthair [MUS]*) (*Standard Source CCCA 2019*)

General

The Munchkin is a medium sized cat, well-muscled, with strong distinctive short legs. This is the result of a spontaneous autosomal dominant mutation; shortening the long bones in the legs. The short legs do not hamper mobility or survival ability. Munchkins are outgoing, intelligent and respond well to handling. They are accepted in both long and short coat lengths and must not resemble any recognised breed. Males are generally larger than females.

Head: Modified wedge with rounded contours, medium in size and in proportion to the body. Profile has a gentle rise from bridge of nose, showing a slight indentation. Cheeks well rounded and broader in males. Nose medium length, with a gentle curve and is set below the eye line. In profile, there is a slight indentation, but not a break or stop. Jaw strong and gently rounded. Chin firm and rounded and in a vertical line with tip of nose. Neck medium sized, and firmly muscled, especially in males, in balance with the body and blending smoothly into the shoulders.

Ears: Medium in size, broad at the base, tapering to a slightly rounded tip, placed as much on the top of the head as on the side. Well-furnished on longhair.

Eyes: Almost round, in a slightly oblique setting and well apart to give an open alert expression.

Body: Medium-sized and medium long in length without undue bulk. The muscular torso has a well-rounded chest, depth of flank and firm hips. The shoulder blades may appear higher but should not be prominent. Back is straight and will show a slight rise from shoulders to rump. Hindquarters are firm and straight when viewed from behind. The cat when viewed from above has head, shoulders and hips of nearly equal width.

Legs and Feet: Short, well-balanced with body, set evenly apart when viewed from front and back. Upper and lower forelegs equal in length. Forelegs: The shoulder should fit tightly around the rib cavity and show good forearm muscle (this may give the illusion of slight bowing on well-muscled cats, due to the solid muscle development of the triceps and biceps), with the lower legs straight from the elbow joint, there should be no bowing in the lower limbs. Hind legs: Thigh and lower leg are approximately equal in length. Back legs slightly longer than the front legs is acceptable. Paws round and firm, in proportion with the body. All four paws squarely placed, pointing directly straight forward, not pointing in or outward.

Tail: Medium thick, tapering to a rounded tip with length in proportion to the body, set high and carried erect.

Coat: **Shorthair:** The texture is resilient, semi-plush, dense and of medium texture. An all-weather coat with natural protective appearance.

Longhair: A semi-longhair coat of moderate density and silky texture. It has a ruff, britches and a full flowing tail plume.

For colour and patterns recognised refer to the descriptions below.

Remarks: Munchkins are not supposed to have extremely short legs with very little clearance under the chest. The legs should be not too tall nor too short, just right. It is recommended that there is sufficient clearance for, at a minimum, 4 fingers width of an outstretched sideways hand to fit between the ground and the chest. A range of height at the withers between 17 to 21 cms is the desirable height for an adult Munchkin.

Faults: Cow hocks. Foreign type or fine boning. Extreme nose break or excessively long nose. Round eyes. Round head.

Withhold

Challenge: Excessive dip behind the shoulder (lordosis). Excessive cobbiness. Curly coat. Sway back. Bowing of front leg bones. Any resemblance to an established recognised breed being miniaturized. Feet pointing inward or outward. Inability to bear or support weight or to walk normally.

Disqualify: ~

SCALE OF POINTS

Head:	<i>including size & shape of eyes, ears</i>	30 points
Ears:		~ points
Eyes:		~ points
Body:	<i>including torso, neck, tail</i>	30 points
Legs and Feet:		20 points
Tail:		~ points
Coat:	<i>length, texture, colour & pattern</i>	15 points
Colour:		~ points
Condition:	<i>& balance</i>	5 points

100 points

COLOURS AND PATTERNS RECOGNISED

General Description

Eye Colour: All colours allowed, regardless of coat colour.

Coat Colour: All colours allowed [except amber] allowed including with white; any amount of white is allowed, ie. blaze, locket, white on chest/belly/paws etc.

Coat Pattern: All patterns including Karpati allowed.

Nose Leather: In accordance with coat colour, outlined in agouti varieties.

Paw Pads: In accordance with coat colour.

Remarks: For judging purposes:

- (a) Varieties are divided into Agouti, Agouti & White, Non-agouti and Non-agouti & White (ie in each group a certificate is awarded).
- (b) White cats of any eye colour to compete in one challenge class.

Faults: ~

Withhold

Challenge: ~

Disqualify: ~

BREEDERS NOTES

Allowable outcross: Domestic Shorthair and Longhair; not a member of a recognised breed.

All Munchkin variants (ie normal leg length) maybe used in Munchkin breeding programs with those not used to be desexed before homing as pets.

Munchkins are not to be used in other Breed programs.