

## RABBIT TERMS

<u>Buck:</u>	a male rabbit..
<u>Doe:</u>	a female rabbit.
<u>Palpation:</u>	checking the female for pregnancy.
<u>Pre-junior:</u>	pertaining to the age of the rabbit; under 3 months.
<u>Junior:</u>	pertaining to the age of the rabbit; under 6 months.
<u>Intermediate:</u>	a rabbit between 6 and 8 months; this only pertains to large breeds or rabbits.
<u>Senior: (large breeds)</u>	a rabbit who is 8 months of age or older.
<u>Senior: (small breeds)</u>	a rabbit who is 6 months of age or older.
<u>Wry neck:</u>	where the head of the rabbit begins to turn to one side due to an infection of the inner ear. This will eventually cause the rabbit to die.
<u>Wolf or buck tooth:</u>	protruding or elongated teeth caused by improper alignment of the teeth.
<u>Tattoo:</u>	a permanent earmark.
<u>Fault:</u>	a minor flaw of the rabbit. This cannot disqualify the rabbit.
<u>Elimination:</u>	a flaw of the rabbit that is considered temporary and curable but will eliminate the rabbit from competition until it is corrected or cured.
<u>Disqualification:</u>	a flaw of the rabbit which cannot be cured and which will immediately disqualify a rabbit from a show.
<u>Fly back:</u>	the action of the coat to return to its original position when stroked toward the rabbits head.
<u>Kindle:</u>	to give birth to young rabbits.
<u>Moult:</u>	to shed.
<u>Type:</u>	the general description of the conformation of the rabbit.

### General Faults

A rabbit in moult or out of condition, hutch stain, broken toenails, stray white hairs in colored fur, double dewlaps, poor tail carriage, poor ear carriage, poor eye color, flabby or over-fat, and thin and extremely poor flesh.

### General Eliminations

Colds, ear canker, slobbers, pot belly, does heavy with young, sore hocks, vent disease, abscesses, sore eyes, running eyes, mange, overweight or underweight, and an illegible earmark.

### General Disqualifications

Snuffles, tumor, rupture, blindness, lop ears (except in lop ear breeds), torn ears, off colored eyes, wall eyes, moon eyes, unmatched eyes, spots or specs on iris, wolf or buck teeth, malocclusion, broken or missing teeth, crooked feet or legs, bowed legs, severe cow hocks, deformed bones, foreign colored spots in solid fur unless called for in the standard, dying, plucking, or trimming, wry tail, screw tail, bob tail, broken tail, white toenails in solid colored breeds, and missing toenails.

# Fur

**Fly Back** A coat of fur which flies back into its smooth normal position when stroked from hindquarters to shoulders. All breeds calling for normal\* fur will have fly back characteristics.

**Roll Back** Roll back shows a gradual return of coat to normal position when it is stroked from hindquarters to shoulders. Breeds with roll back characteristics include-American Sable, Beveren, Dwarf Hotot, Hotot, French Lop and Netherland dwarf.

**\*Normal Fur** consists of an undercoat or underfur that is soft and dense ( the denser the better) interspersed thickly with heavier or thicker guard hairs, not too fine or too harsh.

Exception to the above:

**Rex Fur** Extremely dense and upright fur. The guard hairs are to be plentiful but not noticeably protruding, fur to be 1/2" to 7/8" long.

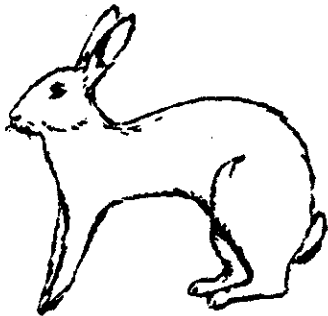
**Silver Fox** A fairly long fur, 1-1/2 inches. When stroked from back to front should stand upright and has to be stroked in reverse to return to normal.

It should be noted that some breed standards are not as descriptive on fur as the emphasis is not on fur.

## A PROFILE ON THE TYPE OF RABBITS

by  
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**Group "A" - FULL ARCED TYPE** - This group is easily recognized by an arc which starts at the NAPE of the neck, continuing over the shoulders, mid-section, loins, and hips to the base of the tail. This type is novel in that it is much deeper in body height than it is in width, and by its long limbs and long body imparts a very racy appearance.



The following breeds are included in Group "A".

**Belgian Hare** - A classic example of the full arced type and raciness.

**Checkered Giant** - Full arced, rather racy, but not as finely drawn throughout as the Belgian Hare, but has heavier bone structure, broader body and deeper head.

**English Spot** - Standard calls for back well arced but is shorter in body and limb, rounder in body.

**Rhinelander** - Full arced, but in a more modified form. Body should be tubular or cylindrical, with well rounded hips, not overly broad.

**Brittania Petite** - Toy type, full arced from nape of neck to base of tail, fine in bone, rather slender head with rather deep jaw, moderate width of hip, racy, active personality.

**Tan** - Compact but arcing gracefully from nape of neck to base of tail, without appearance of being broad.

**Group "B" - SEMI ARCED BREEDS** - This group is well arced but starting at back of shoulder rather than at nape of neck, and continuing to base of tail. They are sometimes referred to as Mandolin type.



The following breeds are included in Group "B".

**American** - Of good size and bone that is medium, on the racy side, rather long in limb. Moderate arc.

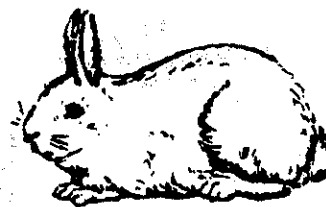
**Beveren** - Also mandolin in type, a little shorter in body and limb than the American. Well developed hind-quarters.

**English Lop** - Well arced starting back of shoulders to tail, broad build, and medium heavy boned.

**Flemish Giant** - Well defined arc starting in back of shoulders and running over hips, loins and rump to base of tail, extremely long in body, long in limbs, head and ears. Heavy-boned, a real giant in character.

**Giant Chinchilla** - Much the same in character as the Flemish Giant, not as prominent in arc, not quite as long in the body, limbs or ears.

**Group "C" - SHORT COUPLED, COMPACT TYPE** - This group are nearly all considered as good meat types, but in a category lighter in weight and shorter in body length. Some differ in shape body, being round tubular, while others are the conventional broader type. They are all related by being shorter in body length than the commercial type, (Group D) described in the next group. The width, depth and length are controlled by the differences in weight within the group.



**English Angora** - Compact in body, should have appearance of a large, round ball.

**Standard Chinchilla** - Nice compactness of body; broad, chubby appearance.

**Dutch** - Nice compact body, short in limbs, nicely rounded in body (tubular) arcing somewhat over back, loins and hips.

**Florida White** - Compact body, well rounded hips, slight taper from shoulder to hips.

**Havana** - Compact in body, meaty shoulders, rounded hips, slight taper from shoulder to hips.

**Lilac** - Similar to Havana.

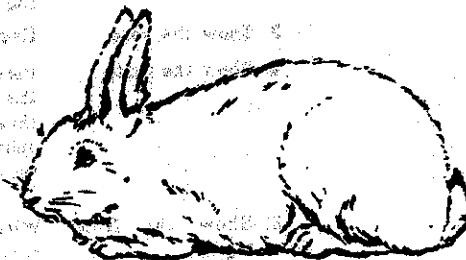
**Netherland Dwarf** - Short, compact body, wide in shoulders; broad, bold head, neatly rounded hips.

**Polish** - Small, compact and rounded in body; neat well rounded hips - not broad or meaty.

**Silvers** - Compact, well rounded full loin, arced in profile.

**Group "D" - COMMERCIAL TYPE** - This group comprises all of our highly touted meat producing breeds (with 1 exception).

Most of these breeds excel in width and depth of body, fullness of loin, and roundness of hips and rump, hardness in flesh and having the smallest amount of offal when dressed. Most are medium length (15 to 17 inches) and differ slightly in wording of their standards, particularly in the curvature and rise in their top body lines, shoulders to hips and width of bodies.



Angora, French  
Champagne D. Argent  
Creme D. Argent  
Californians  
Cinnamons  
Chinchilla, American

French Lop  
Harlequin  
Hotot  
New Zealand  
Palomino  
Rex

Sable  
Satin  
Silver Fox  
Silver Marten  
Blue Vienna

**Group "E" - SNAKY TYPE** - Himalayan - referred to as snaky type. A type all its own. Body to be slim, snaky,



round, and long enough to show off its markings. Head rather slim and long, legs fine in bone and long, body should lie snakelike upon the judging table.

# ARBA Rabbit Showmanship Guide

## Step

### I. Showing your rabbit to the judge. (70 pts.)

## The Showman Will

A proper way to carry a rabbit is to grasp the fold of the skin over the shoulder with the right hand (include the ears), and support the rabbit's weight by placing the left hand under the rump.

The left hand supports the weight of the rabbit while the right hand controls the rabbit. You may keep a firm grip with the right hand since a rabbit dropped from this position can easily break its back. You may want to remove your hand if you feel that you have control.

If the judge asks you to move to a different spot on the table, always pick up the rabbit for carrying before moving to the new location.

When you arrive at the exhibit table, place the rabbit on the table immediately and pose it. It never hurts to wear a smile. Remember to watch the judge. The animal will be placed with the head facing the judge. Turn the animal to the left to begin the next movement.

#### 1. Show the ears and ear number.

Open ears so that the judge can see deep into the ear — left and then right ear. Pick the rabbit up from the table and move it to the other direction.

#### 2. Show the eyes.

Check each eye for signs of blindness or abnormalities, such as cloudiness or spots in iris. You may either pick the animal up and put under your arm to check eyes, or you may turn the animal from one side to the other.

#### 3. Show the nose.

Check the nose for signs of snuffles.

#### 4. Show the teeth.

Pick the rabbit up, placing the weight of the rabbit under the left arm. Place the thumb and index finger on each side of the split upper lip and push back lips to show teeth.

#### 5. Show the front legs.

With the rabbit facing the judge, grasp ears and fur over back, and lift so that rabbit's hind feet are on the table. Pull each front leg forward to see if legs are straight, crooked or bowed.

#### 6. Show the toe nails on the front feet.

Show toe nails to the judge by pushing thumb into center of paw. Push back fur with index finger if necessary to see the toe nails. Don't forget to show dew claw.

#### 7. Check the rear legs.

As you come to the end of the abdomen areas, force rear legs out straight by placing your cupped hand ahead of the rear legs and pushing toward the feet. Point outstretched legs toward the judge. Check the toe nails on the back feet.

#### 8. Check the hocks.

Show bottom of feet and underside of rabbit to judge.

#### 9. Check the sex.

Show sex to judge. Clamp tail with index and second finger; place thumb below vent area, and push toward front of rabbit. Check the testicles if male. Return to posed position.

#### 10. Check the tail.

Show rear of rabbit with tail showing to the judge.

## The Judge May Cut Points For

Lost control of animal; no control of head; no support of body; Unruly animal

Lost control of ears; failure to pick animal up and move to other side.

Failure to check eyes.

Failure to check nose.

Difficulty turning over rabbit, rabbit in uncomfortable position. (Check teeth by reaching in front of mouth.

Failure to check both front legs for straightness or control problems.

Failure to show toe nails; failure to show control problems.

Failure to check both hind legs for straightness.

Failure to check both hocks.

Failure to check sex; control problems.

Leaving rabbit sitting on tail.