

## RUSSIAN BLUE

The Russian Blue is distinct from all other breeds. The truest criterion is its soft, lustrous, bright blue, double coat. Gentle, refined, and shy, often playful in manner, its voice (if any) is soft and sweet. Russian Blues are very slow in maturing; allowance is to be made when judging eye color and density of coat in adolescents.

Scale of points (see also General Preface)

<b><u>Head &amp; Neck</u></b>	10	The forehead is high and the top of the skull is flat and narrow, smoothly curving into the back of the head. The face is broad at eye level but looks broader due to thick fur at side of the head. Medium length straight nose looks upturned from almost any view except profile, due to light reflection. The neck is long, but does not appear so in repose due to thick fur. Heavy whisker pads may appear puffed, thus giving the impression of a pinch. When the whiskers are drawn down, the true profile appears.
<b><u>Ears</u></b>	5	Rather large, almost as wide at the base as they are tall and set far apart as much into the side as the top of the head. Ears look pointed as hair tufts finish off where slightly rounded tips stop. Heavy inside furnishings cover approximately one-half of the otherwise bare, almost translucent ear area. Outside of the ears completely covered with short fine hair.
<b><u>Eye shape &amp; Set</u></b>	5	Almost round, just oval enough to show Oriental slant. Set at least one and one-half eye widths apart.
<b><u>Eye Color</u></b>	10	As vividly green as possible at maturity. Kittens and adolescents have yellow eyes, but by four months a green ring should have appeared around the pupil. Cats whose eyes are not completely vivid green should be penalized, the amount determined by the quantity and vividness of green, as well as by the age of the cat. <b>Withhold wins:</b> no green in eyes of cats 2 years of age or older.
<b><u>Body</u></b>	5	Fine-boned, long and graceful. Appears heavier in repose due to supple skin and lie of coat. Muscular in the manner of a swimmer rather than that of a wrestler.
<b><u>Legs &amp; Feet</u></b>	5	Long, fine-boned legs with small, neat, well rounded feet.
<b><u>Tail</u></b>	5	Straight, rather long, and tapering from a rather thick base.
<b><u>Coat &amp; Texture</u></b>	25	Double coat should be short, very dense, fine and plush-like. It lies out from the body due to the thick undercoat. It may best be felt by stroking towards the head.
<b><u>Color</u></b>	20	Coat should be even, bright blue throughout with lighter lavender color preferred. Guard hairs shade to silvery-blue tip, giving the coat a lustrous appearance. <b>Nose leather:</b> charcoal gray. Body skin is pale blue. <b>Paw pads:</b> may vary from pink-mauve to charcoal gray. <b>Withhold wins:</b> white anywhere on the coat.
<b><u>Condition &amp; Balance</u></b>	10	Well-balanced and healthy