

AMERICAN CURL SHORTHAIR

HEAD	60 Points
Shape/Size	(8)
Profile	(6)
Muzzle	(4)
Chin	(2)
Ears - Degree of Curl	(10)
- Shape/Size	(10)
- Placement	(8)
- Furnishings	(2)
Eyes - Shape/Size	(6)
- Placement	(3)
- Color	(1)
BODY/TAIL	25 Points
Torso/Neck	(9)
Size/Boning	(6)
Legs/Feet	(5)
Tail Length	(5)
COAT/COLOR	15 Points
Silky Texture	(6)
Minimal Undercoat	(4)
Body Coat Length	(2)
Tail Coat Length	(2)
Color	(1)

General: The distinctive feature of the American Curl is their uniquely attractive curled ears. Shulamith, the first American Curl, was first noted in Southern California in 1981. Selective breeding began in 1983. Curls are well balanced, moderately muscled, slender rather than massive in build. They are alert, active, with gentle, even dispositions. Females weigh 5 to 8 pounds, males weigh 7 to 10 pounds. Proper proportion and balance are more important than size. Allowance is to be made for normal male characteristics.

Head:

Shape/Size: Modified wedge without flat planes; smooth transitions; moderately longer than wide. Size is medium and in proportion to body. In profile the nose is moderate in length and straight, slight rise from bottom of eyes to forehead, gentle curve to top of head, flowing into neck, without a break. Muzzle is rounded with a gentle transition, no pronounced whisker break. Chin is firm, in line with nose and upper lip. **Ears:** Degree – minimum 90 degree of curl, not to exceed 180 degrees. Firm cartilage from ear base to at least ½ of height. **Shape/Size –** Wide at the base and open, curving back in smooth arc when viewed from front or rear. Tips rounded and flexible. Moderately large. **Placement –** Erect, set equally on top and side of head. **Furnishings –** are desirable. **NOTE:** When Curls are alert with ears swiveled toward front, lines following curve of ear through tips should point to center of base of skull. A tighter tip curl may interact at a point farther up on the skull but not beyond the top of the skull.

Eyes: Walnut, oval on top and round on bottom, moderately large in size. Placement – set on slight angle between base of ear and top of nose, one eye width apart. Eye color is clear and brilliant. There is no relation to coat color except blue eyes are required in pointed cats.

Body and Tail:

Body: Semi-foreign rectangle, length one and one-half times height at shoulder, medium depth of chest and flank. Neck is medium. Size and boning are intermediate with allowances for larger males. Musculature – moderate strength and tone, flexible. **Legs:** Medium in length and in proportion to body, set straight when viewed from front or rear. Medium boning, neither fine nor heavy. **Feet:** Medium and rounded. **Tail:** Equal to body in length, wide at base, tapering, flexible.

Coat:

Texture: Soft, laying flat, resilient without a plush dense feel. Minimal undercoat. **Length:** Short with tail coat same length as body coat.

Color / Pattern:

Accepted in all recognized colors / patterns registered by ACFA.

PENALIZE:

Head: Ears low set; abrupt change of direction without a smooth curve; pinch, horizontal or vertical crimp; interior surface which appears corrugated. Deep nose break.

Body: Tubular or cobby. Excessive size.

Coat: Heavy undercoat, coarse texture, dense or plush coat.

DISQUALIFY:

Extreme curl in adult where tip of ear touches back of ear or head. Straight or severely mismatched ears. Thick or calcified ears. Lack of firm cartilage in base of ear. Tail faults.