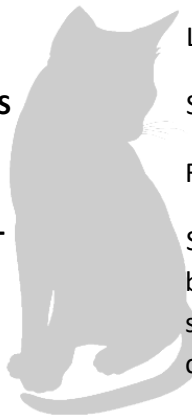


# Russian

- HEAD** Medium wedge with a flat skull and forehead; a straight nose, high cheek bones and prominent whisker pads. In profile the forehead and nose are straight, forming an angle where they meet. The chin should be strong and deep with a level bite. Allowance should be made for mature males with jowls which may disguise the true wedge.
- EARS** Large pointed ears in balance to the head, slightly taller than wide, wide at the base, set vertically to the head and not flared. The tips of the ears are just inside a vertical line with the outer edge of the eyes. The skin of the ears is thin, with sparse inside furnishing.
- EYES** Set rather wide apart, almond in shape.
- CHIN** Firm chin
- BODY** Long and graceful in outline and carriage. Medium strong boned, and well-muscled.
- LEGS** Long
- PAWS** Small and oval
- TAIL** Fairly long and tapering. Neither blunt-ended nor whippy.
- COAT** Short, thick, very fine, soft and silky, with plush-like texture. Very different from any other breed. Coat is double and has a lustrous appearance. Areas of shorter fur show a distinct silver sheen on the Blue coat. The texture and appearance of the coat are the truest criteria of the breed.
- EYE COLOUR** Vivid Green



*Russian Cat Interest Group of South Africa*

**SCALE OF POINTS**

<b>Type:</b>	<b>Head Shape</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>Ears</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>Eyes</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Body and Tail</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>Coat Texture</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Colour:</b>	<b>Eyes</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Coat</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Condition:</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Temperament:</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>100</u></b>

**FAULTS**

**Major awards may be withheld, depending on the degree of the faults:**

- Siamese/Oriental type
- Square head
- Round head
- Weak chin and / or uneven bite
- Yellowish tone to eyes
- Cobby or thickset body
- Tail thick at base
- Flat lying coat
- White hairs in the coat of the Russian Blue and Russian Black
- Coat must be free of tabby markings and shadings in the Russian Blue
- Coat must show no trace of yellow or dark hair or shading of any kind in the Russian White
- Any defects as listed in the Relevant to All Breeds Section.

**RUSSIAN COAT COLOURS**

<b>Blue – RUS06</b>	
<b>Coat Colour:</b>	Medium Blue preferred. Sound and even throughout, free from tabby markings and shadings, except the tail, which could appear to have tail ring markings. Areas of shorter fur show a distinct silvery sheen.
<b>Nose Leather:</b>	Blue
<b>Pad Colour:</b>	Blue or pinkish blue
<b>White – RUS04</b>	
<b>Coat Colour:</b>	Pure White, with no trace of yellow or dark hairs or shading of any kind. Crystal sheen required.  Young kittens masking blue or black will show either a blue or black shading on the head, which could range from a few hairs to a larger patch. This usually disappears with age and should not be penalised at this time; it is a definite fault in an adult cat.
<b>Nose Leather:</b>	Pink
<b>Pad Colour:</b>	Pink
<b>Black – RUS05</b>	
<b>Coat Colour:</b>	Jet Black, even and solid to the roots.
<b>Nose Leather:</b>	Black or dark brown
<b>Pad Colour:</b>	Black or dark brown

<b>Blue Spotted Tabby – RUS06Ts</b>	
<b>Coat Colour:</b>	<p><b>Pattern code: Ts</b> The spots must be clearly evident with no broken mackerel lines on sides of body. Leg and tail rings narrow.</p> <p><b>Head:</b> Thumbprints on backs of ears. Barred with an “M” on the forehead. Bars on cheeks. Light coloured spectacles around eyes. Unbroken line running from the outer corners of the eyes. Spotted whisker pads. Paler chin. Scarab marking on head. Lines from scarab continue between ears and down back of neck to break into spots on shoulders and along spine.</p> <p><b>Neck &amp; chest:</b> Necklaces may or may not be present; broken or unbroken.</p> <p><b>Body:</b> Good, clear spotting essential. Spots may vary in size, but should be rounded and evenly distributed. Belly well spotted.</p> <p><b>Legs:</b> Legs may be barred and / or spotted. Dark gauntlets on back of hind feet.</p> <p><b>Tail:</b> Ringed. Tail ends in a dark tip.</p> <p><b>Faults:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White anywhere other than lips and lower jaw.</li> <li>• Speckling of agouti hairs in spotting.</li> <li>• Indistinct spots.</li> <li>• Spots elongated, resembling broken stripes.</li> <li>• Incorrect spotting pattern, including spots on one side of the body and broken mackerel stripes on the other.</li> <li>• Spotting not solid to the roots, but slight paling at the base of the hair may occur.</li> <li>• Solid spine line in adults.</li> <li>• Kittens may show a rather solid spine line, but some evidence of breaking into spots is desirable.</li> </ul> <p><i>“Agouti ground colour and ear tufts, lips and chin pale bluish ivory. No warm tones in ground colour. Markings a deep blue. Contrast between markings and ground colour may be less apparent”.</i></p>
<b>Nose Leather:</b>	Old Rose outlined in Blue or Blue
<b>Lips, Eye Rims &amp; Pad Colour:</b>	Blue or pinkish blue



*Russian Cat Interest Group of South Africa*

**Note:**

Blue Spotted Tabby Russians **may not be used** in pure blue, black & white Russian breeding programmes, but only for the Blue Spotted Tabby breeding programmes. Russian Blue may be used to improve the Russian Blue Spotted Tabby type, but self-Blue Russian offspring from such spotted tabby parents may not be used in non-tabby Russian breeding programmes, but may be shown.

**Allowable Outcross Breeds:** None

**Standard amended:** October 2023

**Previous amended standards:** 1999/2009/2016