

# The Showmanship and Presentation of your Cavy

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Just some small facts and  
explanations for questions involving  
the showmanship of your Cavy

# General Questions on Cavy Showmanship

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For the next few slides we are going to go over 14 of the general questions the judges will ask you when you present your cavy or piggy.

# Question 1: Name seven cavy breeds

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There are 17 different and unique cavy breeds, but only 13 of these breeds are recognized by the American Rabbits Breeders Associations these breeds include:



Abyssinian- Page 242



Abyssinian Satin - Page 244



American - Page 246



American Satin - Page 248



Texel



Teddy



Teddy Satin



Silkie Satin



Coronet - Page 250



Peruvian - Page 252



Peruvian Satin - Page 254



Silkie - Page 256



White Crested

# The other three breeds of cavies

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Before we move on we want to go over the last few cavy breeds that are not recognized by the ARBA. Knowing all the cavy breeds including the unspecified ones is very important, if you do not know these you may get marked down when showing.

Please remember that these cavies are not show quality and only classify as house pets. If you are interested in purchasing one please consider that you will not be able to show them

# 1. Sheba Mini Yak



## 2. Lunkarya



### 3. Hairless or “Skinny Pig”

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## 4. Merino Pig



## Question 3. What is a baby Cavy called?

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Pups are baby cavies they are born with fur and with their eyes open unlike most other land mammals.

## Question 4. What is a female Cavy called?

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Much like pigs female cavies are called Sows.

## Question 5. What is a male cavy called?

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Once again much like pigs, male cavies are called boars.

## Question 6. How long is the Gestation Period?

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The guinea pig gestation period is 59 to 73 days. The estrous cycle length is 16 days. A female is fertile for about 6 to 11 hours, most often during night hours. They begin a new estrous cycle shortly after giving birth.

## Question 7. Which breed of cavy has rosettes?

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The Abyssinian breed is known for their “rosettes”, which are cowlicks growing from the coat. The rosettes are worth 25 points by ARBA standard. The hair is coarse and harsh, shaped in precise rosettes over the body. There are 10 rosettes on a show cavy; four saddle, two shoulder, two hip, and two rump rosettes.

## Question 8. In what country did cavies originate?

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Cavies were first recorded to originate in South America from a region called Andes, which is now known as Peru and Bolivia.

## Question 9. What is the common name of Cavies?

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The common household name for Cavy is Guinea pig. Guinea pig in Greek translates as small pig. Guinea pigs and cavies are just really small pigs!

Question 10. What is the scientific name for Cavies?

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The Scientific name for cavies is *Cavia Porcellus*

Question 11. How many toes are on the hind legs of a cavy?

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Most guinea pigs have four toes on each front foot and three toes on each hind foot.

## Question 12. Name 2 external parasites that can infect caviae

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There are two mites that cause skin problems in guinea pigs. *Trixacarus* (*Caviacoptes*) *caviae* is the most common mite and the most common parasite that causes scratching. This mite is related to the mite in dogs that causes sarcoptic mange. The other common mite is *Chirodiscoides caviae*.

# Question 13. Name Fur types

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There are eleven different fur types of Cavies and piggys. The eleven are as follows:

Abyssinian, American, Crested, Coronet, Skinny, Silkie, Peruvian, Skinny Pig, Teddy, and Texel.

# Question 14: What is it called when a sow gives birth?

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When a sow gives birth, we call that farrowing.

# One more thing!

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Before we finish we need to go over one more thing you need to know when you want to show a cavy

## The Body Parts!

The Body Parts of your Cavy is one of the most important things to know when you show cavies. Not knowing your cavy's body parts could get you marked down, or even worse, disqualified.

# Here is an illustration of the Body Parts of a Cavy

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