

FULL ARCH TYPE

Belgian Hare, Britannia Petite (pictured), Checkered Giant (pictured), English Spot, Rhinelander, and Tan

Full arch animals have an arch starting at the nape of the neck continuing smoothly over the shoulders, loin, hips and rounding to the base of the tail. There are two types of animals in this group: *Posed & Running*

Posed breeds:

Britannia Petite & Belgian Hare
Set hind feet, lift head from under jaw, or gently from shoulder.



Under Posed

The front legs are not fully extended to show this rabbit off to its best advantage.



Correctly Posed

When viewed from the side, a properly posed Britannia Petite will form a straight line from the top of the ears through the head and chest, through the front legs to the toes.



Over Posed

The front legs extend too far in front of the body which causes the topline to slide.

Mechanics of Handling

Rabbits are nervous and excitable by nature so handle them confidently with a gentle hand to allow them to relax so that a proper evaluation can be performed.

- Use minimal restraint when handling rabbits.
- Lift rabbits from underneath while moving to and from holding coops or cages.
- Use a table as support for when turning a larger rabbit over.
- Do not scruff rabbits.
- If you are judging rabbits remember to treat each exhibit as if it were your very own, and return the rabbit in the same condition you received it!

Posing and Balance

Posing creates the element of uniformity and consistency in our judging and evaluating of the rabbit. **Consistency is key.** Properly and uniformly pose your rabbits to assess their balance and conformation as related their breed standard.

Mechanics of Posing

Before you pose your rabbit, check the toenails and trim if necessary. Overgrown toenails will make it uncomfortable for the rabbit to properly sit to its best advantage.

You may be surprised to note that there are very few variations to the standard pose between all 48 breeds of rabbits. The common elements that apply to all breeds are:

- Hind feet placed flat and square on the table.
- Toes of hind feet aligned with the front of the hip.
- Front feet placed directly under the eyes.

Running breeds :

Tan, Rhinelander, Checkered Giant, and English Spot

- Allow the animal to run. Step back and watch. View from all angles. the reason you run a full arch breed?

- Look for full extension, length of leg, wide/straight tracking, spinal curve with the high point over the loin. Body carried well off the ground.



"YOU RUN THESE BREEDS TO WATCH THEM STOP." - BOBBY BYRNE