

The American Wirehair

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Background

The American wirehair is a simple mutation of the American shorthair. The First wirehair, descending from Vernon in upstate New York, was born from two farm cats in the 1960's. Though the

breed is reasonably well-known they're relatively rare.

The American wirehair has yet to make its way to Britain or Australia, but are especially popular in Germany and Canada.

Cat Facts

- The American wirehair's coat has been described as hard, thick, and actually springy.
- Its coat can come in just about any color or pattern.
- This cat is not hypoallergenic, although that is a popular myth.
- The most distinct "wiring" is from the whiskers.

What are they like?

American wirehairs are very calm and tolerant. This cat would be just as happy sitting by a window watching birds as it would be to play with a new toy. They might be less amenable to new people than other breeds but are a very social breed and would love to be near other pets. Additionally, if you've socialized your Wirehair well as a kitten, it could help him to be more approachable.

Even though they're great at entertaining themselves, wirehairs are friendly and affectionate with family and family friends they know well. They're great around children. They're also intelligent and easy to train.

Because The Wirehair can be genetically crossed with

the American shorthair, some health issues may arise, for example Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.

Right for you?

- Grooming: Wirehairs require little-to-no grooming, brushing, or combing. However, when their coat gets greasy, a good bath should do the trick.
- Hunters: If you have a mouse or insect problem, the wirehair can help. They also love playing with fishing-pole toys.
- Low Maintenance: This breed is very easy to care for and would be a great family cat.

If you have any questions or concerns, you should always visit or call your veterinarian - they are your best resource to ensure the health and well-being of your pets.