

BSBA Babydoll breed standard

The Babydoll is a smaller, dual-purpose meat and wool sheep developed from the Southdown and suited to use on small farms and in vineyards and orchards. The breed is known for its easy going temperament, attractive appearance including the Babydoll smile, short stature and deep, well-muscled body. It provides good eating with smaller cuts suited to home butchering. The goals of this breed are to produce structurally sound, short and stocky sheep that are easy to handle and care for. They should have good fertility, lamb easily and be capable of raising multiple fast growing, vigorous lambs.

Element	Description
Head	Wide, level between the ears with no sign of horn or scurs. Medium length from eyes to nose.
Face and muzzle	Full face with strong, wide lower jaw giving the classic smiling look. Teeth fitting well up on the dental pad.
Ears	Medium size, level with head and covered with short wool.
Eyes	Eyes large, brown and bright.
Nose and lips	Dark skin preferred. Nostrils, full and wide.
Neck	Wide at base, moderate length and well set on the shoulder with as few wrinkles as possible.
Shoulders	Well muscled, level with the back and flowing smoothly into the ribs. Width at the shoulders should be less than width at the hips.
Chest and ribs	Ribs well sprung. Deep over the heart and but not so wide that it affects the square stance.
Back	Back long, level and firm, somewhat longer than height at shoulder. Deep, wide and firm well-muscled loin.
Tail	Broad, attached almost level with the spine.
Legs and feet	Legs, thick with strong bone. Forearms strong and thick with meat. Knees square with the body when viewed from the front. Hind legs with a slightly forward setting from the vertical line of the pin bone. Dark hooves preferred.
Hindquarters	Full, well let down, well-muscled hind saddle. Deep, wide muscling through the twist giving strength to the back legs and freedom of movement. Good width between the hipbones.
Scrotum	Good size, well hung, carrying two normal, well developed testicles. Scrotum not split.
Udder	Wide and well attached with two functioning teats.
Skin	Pale grey to bright pink on white sheep. Dark tones on black sheep. Should not have wrinkles over the body.
Fleece and wool	Wool medium fine and dense with Downs character, covering the whole body down to the hocks and knees. Any colour or colour pattern. Fleece on cheeks, forehead and around the eyes not so long as to obstruct vision. Tuft of hair on each foot.
Size	Adult sheep should be between 45cm and 61cm. Measurements are taken at the highest point of the middle of the shoulder and perpendicular to the ground on a shorn sheep.
Carriage	Free and active, head well carried. Rams should look more masculine and are usually larger than ewes.