

OCICAT

The Ocicat is a large, well-spotted, agouti patterned cat of moderate type. Ocicats display the look of an athletic animal. They are well muscled, solid, graceful and lithe, yet possess a fullness of body and chest. Ocicats are alert to their surroundings and show great vitality. The Ocicat exists in many colours with the darker spots appearing on a lighter background. Moreover, each hair (except on the tip of the tail) has several bands of colour. It is where these bands fall together that a thumb print shape spot is formed. This powerful, athletic, large, yet graceful spotted cat is particularly noted for its feral appearance.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (25)

(10) BODY – The body size is large; although, generally, females are smaller than males. Ocicats are surprisingly heavy for their size. The torso is solid, rather long with depth and fullness but it never appears coarse. There is substantial bone and muscle development, thus giving an athletic appearance. The ribs appear slightly sprung, thus giving the impression of depth of chest. The back is level, but rises slightly forward in the rear; whereas the flank is reasonably level. Preference in this trait is given to the cat which appears athletic, powerful and lithe.

(5) LEGS & FEET – The legs should be of good substance and well muscled. The legs are medium-long, powerful and are in good proportion with the rest of the body. The feet should be oval and compact and be in good proportion with the legs.

(5) TAIL – The tail is fairly long but medium-slim with only a slight taper at the tip. The tip of the tail is dark.

II – HEAD TYPE (20)

(5) SKULL: The skull is medium wedge which displays a slight curve from muzzle to each cheek. The head should be in pleasing proportion with the cat's body. The head should be carried gracefully on an arching neck. Allowance should be made for jowls in mature males.

(5) MUZZLE – The muzzle is well defined with a suggestion of squareness. In profile, the muzzle shows good length, a strong chin and there is no suggestion of snippiness. The jaw should be firm with a proper bite.

(5) EARS are alert, moderately large and set so as to corner the upper, outside dimensions of the face. When they occur, ear tufts extend vertically from the tips of the ears.

(5) EYES are large, almond shape and angle slightly upwards toward the ears. There is more than the length of one eye between the eyes.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (5)

The coat is fine in texture with a lustrous sheen. It is close-lying and sleek, yet long enough to accommodate the necessary (agouti) bands of colour. There should be no suggestion of woolliness or excessive coat length.

IV – COLOUR (50)

(5) COLOUR – All colours should be clear and pleasing. The lightest colour is found usually on the face round the eyes, on the chin, and on the lower jaw. The darkest colour is found on the tip of the tail.

(5) TICKING – All hairs except on the tip of the tail are banned. Within the markings, hairs are tipped with a darker colour while hairs in the ground colour are tipped with a lighter colour.

(10) CONTRAST : Distinctive markings should be clearly seen from any orientation. Markings on the face, legs and tail may be darker than those on the torso. The ground colour may be darker on the saddle and lighter on the undersides, chin and lower jaw of the cat. It must be remembered that pale colours will show less contrast than darker colours. Spotting must always be clear and distinct.

(25) HEAD TYPE Intricate tabby "M" shape on the forehead. Markings extend up and over the head between the ears and break into small spots on the lower neck and shoulders. Mascara markings are found around the eyes and on the cheeks. Rows of round spots run along the spine from the shoulder blades to the tail. The tail has horizontal brush strokes down the tip which, ideally, alternate with spots and end in a dark tip. Spots are scattered across the shoulders and hindquarters. These spots extend as far as possible below the legs. There are broken bracelets on the lower legs and broken necklaces in the throat region - the more broken, the better. Large, well scattered thumb print shape spots appear on the sides of the torso. There is a subtle suggestion of a Classic Tabby pattern, i.e. – a spot circled by spots in place on the bull's eye. The belly is well spotted too. The eyes are rimmed with the darkest coat colour and they are surrounded by the lightest coat colour. Spots must not elongate as if following a Mackerel Tabby pattern.

(5) EYE COLOUR – All eye colours except blue are allowed. There is no correspondence between eye colour and coat colour. Depth, evenness and brilliance of colours are preferred.

IV – CONDITION AND BALANCE (0)

Although no points are allotted for Condition and Balance, the ideal Ocicat should be large, well muscled, solid, graceful, lithe and possess a fullness of body and chest.

OBJECTIONS

DEDUCT

*Woolly or long coat. 1-3

*Bulky or coarse body. 2-5

*Faint or blurred spotting. 2-5

*Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern. 3-7

WITHHOLDS

*Blue eyes.

*White lockets or spotting or white anywhere other than around the eyes, nostrils, chin and upper throat regions (except white agouti ground colour in colours containing silver).

*Due to the Spotted Patched Tabby (Tortie) cats resulting from the sex-link "O" gene— no Reds, Creams or Torbie are allowed. Very rufous Cinnamons or Fawns may resemble Red or Cream but these colours never produce female Torbies.

*All grounds for withholding awards as listed in the General Preface.

RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Refer to Colours & Patterns appendix for complete list.

BREED ORIGIN: Hybrid

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS: F2 Allowed.

SHOWING REQUIREMENTS: F2 allowed

ALLOWED ANCESTRY: Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese

ALLOWED MATINGS: Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese