

TONKINESE

The Tonkinese is a hybrid of the Siamese and Burmese, recreating the original intermediate type of those breeds in the full range of their traditional solid colours. Tonkinese are a medium sized cat of semi-foreign type, well muscled with a firm feel and surprising weight for their size. The head is a medium-short, modified wedge showing clean, curved contours with a whisker pinch and a slight nose stop. Tonkinese do not look like a bad version of either component breed, but rather resemble an absolutely moderate blend with a distinctive look all its own. The impression should be of an alert, sociable cat in superb condition, silken coated and gracefully athletic.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (27)

(15) BODY – The body is medium in size; neither slight, nor bulky. Males are larger than females. Conformation is semi-foreign and is neither stocky nor rangy. Torso is a medium length rectangle. Chest is medium in width, rounding gently in front. Flanks are level. Back rises slightly from shoulders to rump. Boning is refined. Musculature is solid and well developed with clean lines. Abdomen is taut and firm. Neck is trim, supple and medium in length. Mature males may have noticeably muscular neck and shoulders.

(7) LEGS & FEET – Legs are moderately slim; well muscled without bulk. They are proportionate in length and bone structure with body. Hind legs are slightly longer than front legs. Paws are trim, medium ovals.

(5) TAIL – The tail is medium long and in proportion with body. Wider at base, but not thick. The tail tapers to a slightly blunt tip.

II – HEAD TYPE (27)

(10) FULL FACE – The head is a medium size, modified wedge with clean, gently curved contours, just slightly longer than wide. High, gently planed cheekbones. Blunt muzzle of medium length and width, neither pointed or excessively rounded with a definite but not exaggerated whisker pinch. Head and ears give impression of an equilateral triangle when viewed from front, with allowance for jowls in adult males.

(7) PROFILE – Slight convex curve from top of head to just above eyes, dipping to a slight stop at or just below eye level, with no appearance of a break. Nose has slight convex curvature, being neither ruler straight nor bumped. Chin is firmly curved and is neither prominent, nor weak. A proper bit is evident.

(5) EARS – Ears are medium in size, slightly longer than wide, with a broad base and oval tips. Ears are set as much on side of head as on top, with outer line continuing line of wedge. They are pricked forward. Hair is very short and close lying – skin may show through.

(5) EYES – Eyes are half almond shape on top, while appearing slightly rounded on bottom – the shape of a peach pit. More open than Oriental, but not round. Eyes are medium in size and yet well apart with at least one eye width between the eyes. Eyes are slanted toward outer edges of ears.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (9)

Medium short, luxuriant coat is close lying. The coat is fine, soft and silky with a lustrous sheen.

IV – COLOUR (27)

(12) BODY COLOUR – Rich and even, without dark spots, barring or noticeable number of white hairs, shading gradually to slightly lighter hue on under parts. Hair may be lighter at roots. Full colour development may take up to eighteen months, particularly in light colours. Allow for darker body colour due to age, provided an acceptable contrast with points is maintained in Mink and Pointed colours.

POINTED body colour is shaded and neutral lacking colour on under parts, showing a marked contrast with points. Tonkinese maltese dilutes often show warm fawn tones and pointed body colour may be more shaded than in equivalent colour Siamese; these are not faults.

MINK body colour is a definite contrast with points.

SEPIA body colour is close to that of extremities, showing a slight contrast to points. Preference should be given to clarity and contrast, not to hue.

(8) POINT COLOUR – Even and unbarred, without ticking or white hairs. Paw pads and nose leather are properly pigmented.

POINTED cats colour is comparable on mask, ears, feet and tail with points densely, evenly and clearly marked. Mask should cover entire face including whisker pads, but must not extend over top of head like a hood.

MINKS, colour is comparable on mask, ears, feet and tail with points densely, evenly and clearly marked but merging gently into body colour particularly on legs. Except in kittens, there should be visible gauntlets and tracings connecting mask to ear. Mask should cover entire face including whisker pads, but must not extend over top of head like a hood.

SEPIAS, there is darker shading of varying degree of face, ears, tail and sometimes on feet. This is most noticeable in young cats and light colours. This is not a fault, unless extremely pronounced, with leg gauntlets in a mature cat. Allow for faint barring on tail and lower legs only in cats under eighteen months of age.

(7) EYE COLOUR – Deep, clear, brilliant, mid-range of colours is preferred. Colour is best determined in natural light with allowance for incomplete development under one year of age.

POINTED, any shade of blue, light sky blue to violet.

MINKS, any shade of aqua, celadon to turquoise-blue.

SEPIA, any shade of yellow, chartreuse-green to amber.