

ABYSSINIAN

The ideal Abyssinian is medium in size and shows firm muscular development. It is regal in appearance displaying a lively interest in all surroundings. Although an active cat, it is gentle and amenable to handle.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (25)

(15) BODY – The conformation projects a balance between American and Oriental types. The rib cage is rounded. The back is slightly arched when standing. The belly appears level without tuck-up.

(4) LEGS – The length of the legs is in proportion with the body length.

(3) FEET – Neat, compact, oval and in proportion with the overall size of the cat.

(3) TAIL – When measured over the back, the tail reaches the shoulder blades. It is wide at the base tapering towards the tip.

II – HEAD TYPE (25)

(15) HEAD – FRONT VIEW – The head is a modified wedge with rounded contours. The skull is round. The muzzle is not sharply pointed and there is no evidence of a whisker pinch. **PROFILE** – The transition between forehead, brow and muzzle is a gentle curve. The nose has no evidence of a sharp break. The chin is strong.

(5) EARS – Large, moderately pointed, IDEALLY WITH TUFTS at the tip, broad and cupped at the base, arched forward set as though listening. The hair on the ears is short and close lying. Hair is longer and lighter in colour on the inside of the ear.

(5) EYES – Almond shaped, large, brilliant and expressive.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (10)

The coat is soft, but dense and resilient to the touch with a lustrous sheen. It is medium in length and long enough to accommodate four or six alternating light and dark coloured bands. The ideal coat is to spring back into place when brushed backwards. The coat is longest at the spine, gradually shortening over the saddle, flank, legs and head.

IV – COLOUR (40)

ALLOWANCE (UP TO EIGHT MONTHS) FOR LIGHT LEG BARS, LIGHT NECKLACES, SHOULDER MARKINGS & DARK ROOTS.

(15) COLOUR – The base coat is clear, even colour without grey or black rooting (Ruddy) or ashiness (Sorrel). Colour of ears, nose leather, paw pads and underside as outlined in the Colour Description.

(5) FACIAL MARKINGS – Symmetrical and projecting a feral look. The eyes are accentuated by darker lid skins, encircled by a light coloured area. An “M” or darker colour appears vertically on the forehead. There is a short dark

stroke at the outer corner of each eye. The upper throat, lips, nostrils and chin are cream or off-white.

(15) TICKING – Even, with four or six bands of alternating light and dark colour. The extreme outer tip is the darkest with the lighter band next to the skin. At the stomach, the coat is unticked and softer than on the sides and back. On the extremities, covered by shorter hair, are two bands of colour. There is no patching or irregularity in ticking evident on the coat except a dark ticked line running from the skull to the base of the tail.

(5) EYE COLOUR – Rich shade of gold, green, hazel or copper. The more richness and depth of colour, the better.

V – CONDITION & BALANCE

The breed is to display firm muscular development.

OBJECTIONS

| | DEDUCT |
|--|---------------|
| * Receding chin line. | 1-3 |
| * Heavy legs bars. | 1-5 |
| * Heavy broken necklace. | 1-5 |
| * Incorrect nose leather. | 1-3 |
| * Off-white or cream extending down into lower throat. | 1-3 |
| * Pale brown paw pads on a Ruddy. | 1-4 |
| * Dark roots on a mature cat. | 1-5 |
| * Coarse, thin, woolly or long coat. | 1-3 |

WITHHOLDS

- * Complete necklace.
- * White patches of hair other than under the chin or mouth.
- * Incorrect paw pad colour.
- * Black hairs on a Sorrel.
- * Reverse ticking.
- * Rings on tail.
- * All grounds for withholding awards listed in the General Preface

RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Ruddy, Sorrel (Cinnamon), Blue, Fawn.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| BREED ORIGIN: | Natural |
| REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS: | No Foundation Allowed. <i>An Abyssinian which is not registered with CCA must provide a 5 generation certified pedigree from CFA registry OR an 8 generation certified pedigree from another cat association recognized by CCA.</i> |
| SHOWING REQUIREMENTS: | No Foundation Allowed. |
| ALLOWED ANCESTRY: | Abyssinian, No AOV. |
| ALLOWED MATINGS: | Abyssinian, No AOV. |

2021/05/01

COLOURS

BLUE

FAWN

RUDDY

SORREL

BLUE

Coat: Warm, soft blue-grey.

Undersides: Body, chest and inside of the legs are to be a warm cream to beige which harmonizes with the undercoat colour. Darker shading along the spine is allowed, if fully ticked. Tail is tipped with slate blue and is without rings.

Ticking: Various shades of slate blue. Outer tip to be darkest with a warm undercoat.

Ears: Tipped with slate blue.

Nose Leather: Dark pink.

Paw Pads: Mauve, with slate blue between pads extending slightly beyond the pads.

Eye Colour: Gold, green, hazel or copper.

Objections: Incorrect nose leather.

Withhold Awards: Incorrect paw pad colour.

FAWN

Coat: Warm, pinkish buff with powdered effect.

Undersides: Body, chest and inside of legs to be a pale oatmeal. Spine shading to be a darker shade of body colour. Tail is tipped with a deep shade of pinkish buff.

Ticking: Ticking is deeper shade of pinkish buff. Preference is to be given to good even ticking. Ticking is slow to develop and could take two years.

Ears: Tipped with deeper shade of pinkish buff.

Nose Leather: Pink-mauve.

Paw Pads: Pink-mauve with a deep pinkish buff between the toes extending slightly beyond paws.

Eye Colour: Gold, green, hazel or copper.

Objections: Incorrect nose leather.

Withhold Awards: Incorrect paw pad colour.

RUDDY

Coat: Rich orange brown.

Undersides: Body, chest and inside of legs are clear, even, orange-brown. Deeper, warmer shades are preferred.

Ticking: Dark brown or black.

Ears: Tipped with black.

Nose Leather: Brick red outlined by a narrow black line.

Paw Pads: Black or dark brown. Hair between the toes and up the back of the calf is black.

Eye Colour: Gold, green, hazel or copper.

Objections: Incorrect nose leather. Pale brown paw pads.

Withhold Awards: Incorrect paw pad colour.

SORREL (Cinnamon)

Coat: Warm sorrel-red to rich cinnamon.

Undersides: Body, chest and inside of the legs are a warm peach to apricot colour. Deeper, warmer shades are preferred.

Ticking: Chocolate brown.

Ears: Tipped with chocolate brown.

Nose Leather: Salmon pink.

Paw Pads: Salmon pink. Hair between the toes and up the back of the calf is chocolate brown.

Eye Colour: Gold, green, hazel or copper.

Objections: Incorrect nose leather.

Withhold Awards: Incorrect paw pad colour. Black hairs.

GENERAL PREFACE

The following shall apply to all breeds or as indicated:

WITHHOLD AWARDS FOR:

1. More or fewer than five toes on each front paw and four toes on each back paw (Pixie-Bobs are exempt from this rule). Splayed toes are an objection.
 2. White lockets, buttons or toes on any cat, except where part of the natural colour / pattern OR unless otherwise specified in the breed standard.
 3. Any deformity or disfigurement — hereditary, congenital or acquired.
 4. Entries which do not meet correct markings as stated. Entries must be properly and distinctly marked in accordance with the standard for all cats of the tabby variety.
 5. A cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (i.e., the presence of powder, or chalk remaining in the coat after normal grooming, the use of tints, colour rinses or other artificial colouring concealment media, sanding or shaving, or knowledge of cosmetic surgery).
 6. Any cat not amenable to handling by the judge, its owner or agent. All domestic breeds of cats covered in the standards are expected to be gentle and amenable to handling. Cats should be well-balanced physically and temperamentally.
 7. Kinks, visible or invisible. Kink is defined as rigid deflection in the line of the tail, visible or otherwise. Small, invisible bumps shall be considered a fault.
 8. Wrong eye colour (unless otherwise specified).
 9. Crossed eyes in any breed.
 10. Maloccluded jaws.
 11. Monorchidism (absence of one testicle) or Cryptorchidism (absence of both testicles) are grounds for withholding awards.
 12. Any entry that scores less than 90 points.
6. A 'blaze' — two colours on the face divided down the nose— is desirable (all other factors being equal) on the numerous tortoiseshell-like colours and patterns (i.e., tortoiseshell, lilac-cream, champagne-tortie, seal tortie point, etc.)
 7. The greenish-yellow eye colour, generally referred to as 'hazel' (not brown) is allowed where stated.
 8. Excellence in one aspect of the standard shall not offset deficiency in another. Inasmuch as the standard specifically describes the various parts of the cat's appearance, all judges shall conduct their work in accordance with these specifications.
 9. All entries should possess the appropriate weight, condition and balance for its respective breed. Balance is the overall physical picture of the cat. The cat must 'fit together' and any one particular quality must not be emphasized. Judges shall not penalize any fault by a greater amount than the cat would have earned if perfect in that detail.
 10. Judges shall penalize for bad condition indicating illness or poor care.
 11. Natural lighting should be used wherever possible. Allowances are to be made for (harsh) artificial lighting which may distort eye and coat colour.

KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING:

1. weak, receding, or protruding chin is to be considered a serious fault. Deductions can be made for chin, profile and balance.
2. Allowance is to be made for stud jowls in males. Usually, males are proportionally larger than females.
3. Allowance is to be made for seasonal variations in coat.
4. Allowance is to be made for faint tabby markings, except where part of the normal colour pattern.
5. Allowance is to be made for undeveloped eye colour and undeveloped coat colour in kittens and young cats.

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