

# 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

	<b>DEDUCT</b>
* 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.

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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.

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**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

It is important to consult the individual breed standard for breed-specific disqualifications. The following list applies to all breeds unless otherwise indicated.

### WITHHOLD AWARDS (W/A) 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 disqualification.
  2. White lockets, buttons, or toes on any cat, except where part of the natural colour or pattern, or unless otherwise specified in the breed standard.
  3. Any entry that is declawed. Clear nail-tip covers are allowed.
  4. Any deformity or disfigurement — hereditary, congenital, or acquired. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
  5. A cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (e.g., the presence of powder or chalk residue in the coat after normal grooming; the use of tints, colour rinses, or other artificial colouring concealment media; sanding or shaving).
  5. An entry, without provocation, attacks a judge or other person within the ring area, the entry shall be deemed vicious and disqualified (D.V. Disqualified, Vicious).
  6. Kinks, visible or invisible. Kink is defined as a rigid deflection of the tail line, whether visible or not. Small, invisible bumps or calcium deposits shall be considered a fault. Refer to individual breed standards for exceptions to this rule.
  7. Wrong eye colour (unless otherwise specified in a breed's standard).
  8. Crossed eyes in any breed. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
  9. Maloccluded jaws.
  10. Monorchidism (the absence of one testicle) or cryptorchidism (the absence of both testicles) is grounds for withholding awards in the Championship (whole adult) or Miscellaneous (whole adult) classes.
  11. Any entry that scores less than 90 points.
6. Excellence in one aspect of the standard shall not offset a deficiency in another. Because the standard specifically describes the various parts of the cat's appearance, all judges shall conduct their judging in accordance with these specifications.
  7. All entries should possess the appropriate weight, condition, and balance for their breed. Balance is the overall physical picture of the cat. The cat must 'fit together', and no single quality **should** be emphasized. Judges shall not penalize any fault by more than the cat would have earned if perfect in that detail.
  8. Judges shall penalize or disqualify N.F.A (No Further Award) for poor condition, indicating illness or poor care.
  9. If an entry has fleas, fungus, ear mites, etc., the judge shall N.F.A. the entry and notify the Show Manager.
  10. An obviously pregnant or lactating queen will be disqualified as N.F.A. (No Further Awards).
  11. Natural lighting should be used wherever possible. Allowances should be made for harsh artificial lighting, which may distort eye and coat colour.
  12. An entry presented in the judging ring showing noticeable effects of a sedative (e.g., third eyelids visible, overly glassy eyes, inability to stand or sit, lack of coordination or muscle control) shall not receive an award. The judge will record N.F.A (No Further Award) in their judge's book.
  13. Any cat too nervous or intractable to handle by the judge or the owner / agent must be disqualified (D.U.H. – Disqualified, Unable to Handle).
  14. A judge may disqualify any entry whose owner / agent draws specific attention to himself or his entry when benching the cat in the judging ring or at any time during judging. Judges shall enter D.L.E. (Disqualified, Lack of Etiquette) in their books.
  15. When an entry's colour or pattern has been misclassified, the entry shall be transferred to its correct class with the owner's permission.
  16. Cats recovering from recent surgery (or injury) where the incision (or wound) has not completely healed, stitches removed, etc.; must be disqualified (N.F.A. – No Further Awards).

### FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

1. A weak, receding, or protruding chin is considered a serious fault. Deductions can be made for chin, profile, and balance.
2. Allowance should 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 should be made for faint tabby markings in kittens and young cats, except when they are part of the normal colour pattern.
5. Allowance should be made for undeveloped eye colour and undeveloped coat colour in kittens and young cats.

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