

## BENGAL

The Bengal cat appears to have walked from the jungle into the show hall. Temperament is dependable, curious, intelligent, interactive and loving. Ancestral models, *felis catus* and *Prionailurus Bengalensis*, create patterns reminiscent of the wild as well as patterns completely new and unique to both models. The Bengal cat is athletic, sleek, and muscular; medium to large in size, allowance made for smaller females. Characteristics in the appearance of the Bengal cat distinct from those found in other domestic cat breeds given special merit.

### I – BODY/CONFORMATION (33)

(10) BODY – Long and substantial but neither oriental nor foreign. Medium to large.

(5) BONING — Robust, never delicate.

(5) MUSCULATURE — Very muscular especially in the males; one of the most distinguishing features.

(4) NECK – Substantial and muscular, large in proportion to head. Long and in proportion to body.

(2) LEGS – The length is medium, slightly longer in the back than in the front. Boning is large and substantial, never delicate. Very muscular like the body.

(3) FEET – Large, round, with prominent knuckles.

(4) TAIL – Thick, with a rounded tip. Medium in length and a blunt end.

### II – HEAD TYPE (22)

(6) SHAPE – Broad modified wedge with rounded contours. Longer than it is wide. Allowance to be made for jowls in adult males.

(2) CHIN – Strong, substantial chin, aligns with the tip of nose in profile.

(2) MUZZLE – Full and broad, with large, prominent whisker pads and high, pronounced cheekbones. Slight muzzle break at the whisker pads followed into sculptured cheek boning.

(2) NOSE – The nose has a very slight concave curve. The nose leather is large and wide, slightly puffed.

(5) EARS – Overall size medium. The height is medium to medium-short ears, allowance for ears appearing larger on kittens up to 12 months. The base is wide in proportion to the height. Rounded tips are desirable. Cup shape in appearance preferred, with a slight forward slant. The placement is set as much on side as top of head, following contour of the face in the frontal view and tipping forward in the profile view. Light horizontal furnishings are acceptable but lynx tipping is undesirable.

(5) EYES – Oval acceptable, but round eyes are more desirable. Large but not bugged. Set wide apart, back into face, on a slight bias toward base of ear. Eye colour independent of coat colour except in the Lynx Points. Special Merit: Richness and depth of colour.

### III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (10)

Short to medium-short in length (allowances made for slightly longer coat in kittens). Two textures are allowed: thick, luxurious and unusually soft OR close lying to the skin and unusually silky smooth.

### IV – COLOUR (10)

The colours should display good contrast between the ground colour and markings. GLITTER: Comes from a domestic outcross into the first Bengal cats. It is a simple recessive gene giving a 'metallic' look to the hair and a softer texture. While unique to the Bengal cat it is not required.

### V – PATTERN & CONTRAST (25)

Contrast is applicable to all colours (assign 10 points for contrast). Pattern colour with ground colour must be extreme, giving distinct pattern and sharp edges. The ground colour has agouti banding, the uniformity of this banding gives clarity to the ground colouring. Pattern that lies deep on the hair shaft gives more contrast.

**SPOTTED PATTERN** – Pattern must be random, horizontal or diagonal; with little or no resemblance to a 'broken' Mackerel or Classic tabby. Rosettes showing two distinct colours or shades are preferable to single spotting, but not required. Paw print, arrowhead, doughnut or semi-circular; clustered or other odd shapes showing patterning distinct from domestic cats. Strong, bold chin strap and horizontal shoulder streaks desirable. Belly must be spotted. White underside and belly highly desired. Special Merit given to unique patterning that strikes the eye as being non-domestic.

**MARBLED PATTERN** – Markings, while derived from the Classic tabby gene is combined with the horizontal pull of the non-domestic resulting in a uniquely different pattern with as little "bull's eye" similarity as possible. Pattern shall, instead, be random giving the impression of marble, preferably with a horizontal flow when the cat is stretched. Vertical striped mackerel influence is undesirable. Preference to be given to cats with three or more shades, i.e. – ground colour, marking, and dark outlining of those markings. Contrast must be extreme, with distinct shapes and sharp edges. Strong, bold chin strap and mascara desirable. Necklaces can be broken or unbroken. Belly must be spotted. White underside and belly highly desired. Special Merit given to unique patterning that strikes the eye as being non-domestic.

**CHARCOAL PATTERN** – (*The Charcoal pattern effect is in combination with the Bengal Spotted tabby, Marble tabby, Lynx Point patterns.*) Definite contrast between

ground colour and markings, with distinct shapes, and clearly defined edges. Pattern should have a horizontal flow. Preference given to dark markings with clear outlines, and well contrasted to the ground colour. There must be white or nearly white spectacles or “goggles” encircling the eyes. A dark ‘Zorro’ type mask runs from the nose bridge to the nose, and connects from the mascara lines to the nose bridge. A dark overtone ‘cape’ running down the length of the back, equal in colour to the darkest markings is desirable. Colour on chest and belly is lighter than ground colour. Belly must be spotted. *The Charcoal influence of the Lynx Point Tabby, Mink Tabby, and Sepia Tabby result in ground colour that is shades darker than typical for those individual colour descriptions, with the ‘goggles’ and ‘cape’ pattern as described earlier in this text.*

**AOV – MELANISTIC (Effect) PATTERN** – The term ‘Melanistic’ when describing a hybrid cat is a solid colour, but not as seen as the solid in a non-hybrid breed (no markings). The Melanistic Bengal cat shows ghost tabby markings. They can be either Spotted, Marble or Charcoal. The Pattern is more visible in kittens. As adults the markings fade into ‘ghost markings’ which are more solid.

**AOV – SMOKE (Effect) PATTERN** – Contrast between ground colour and markings will be faint or ghost-like. All colours have a whitish undercoat. Pattern should have a horizontal flow. They can be either Spotted, Marble or Charcoal. Lighter colour around the eyes, temples, muzzle, chest and belly. Belly must be spotted.

## VI – CONDITION & BALANCE

The breed should display firm muscular development.

## TEMPERAMENT

Temperament must be unchallenging. Any sign of definite challenge shall disqualify. Cat may exhibit fear, seek to flee or generally complain aloud, but may not threaten to harm. Bengals should be confident, alert, curious and friendly cats.

## OBJECTIONS

### DEDUCT

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| * Spots on body running together vertically forming a mackerel pattern.   | 2-7 |
| * Circular bull's eye pattern on marbles.   | 2-7 |
| * Pointed tail tip.   | 1-3 |
| * Substantially darker point colour (as compared to colour of body markings) on Seal Lynx Point, Seal Silver Lynx Point, Seal Sepia, Seal Silver Sepia, Seal Mink, or Seal Silver Mink. Blue Lynx Point, Blue Silver Lynx Point, Blue Mink, Blue Silver Mink, Blue Sepia, Blue Silver Sepia.) | 1-3 |

## WITHHOLDS

- \* Belly not spotted.
- \* Paw pads not consistent with their colour group description.
- \* Paw pads not entirely the same colour.
- \* Incorrect colour on tail tip.
- \* All grounds for withholding awards as listed in the General Preface.

## RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Refer to Colours & Patterns list.

### BREED ORIGIN:

Hybrid

### REG. REQUIREMENTS:

- \* A F1 resulting from a Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus Bengalensis*) crossed to a domestic cat, born prior to December 31, 1995. No allowable out-crossing to another domestic breed effective December 31, 1995.
- \* A F1 resulting from a Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus Bengalensis*) crossed to a SBT Bengal or any Bengal Hybrid ALC lineage.
- \* F2, F3 or SBT resulting from a SBT Bengal or Bengal Hybrid crossed to a domestic cat, born prior to December 31, 1995. No allowable out-crossing to another domestic breed, effective January 1, 2000.
- \* A F2, F3 or SBT resulting from a SBT Bengal or any Bengal Hybrid crossed to a SBT Bengal or any Bengal Hybrid from ALC lineage.

### SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- \* F4 from Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus Bengalensis*).
- \* F1 from allowed domestic out-crosses (born prior to January 1, 2000).

### ALLOWED ANCESTRY:

- \* Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus Bengalensis*), Abyssinian, Balinese, Bengal (SH & LH), British Shorthair, Bombay, Burmese, Colourpoint Shorthair, Egyptian Mau, Exotic Shorthair, Himalayan, Persian, Siamese, Somali (LH & SH), Indian Mau and domestic shorthair until January 1, 2000.
- \* Bengal from ALC lineage only after January 1, 2000.

### ALLOWED MATINGS:

Bengal & Bengal hybrids resulting from ALC lineage.

The acronym SBT means **Stud Book Traditional** in TICA, an American cat registry, and represents the fourth (F4) generation in a pedigree. ALC is the acronym for Asian Leopard Cat.

2019 05 01

**Refer to General Preface on the final page for disqualifications and objections not listed here.**

**SPOTTED**

BLUE SPOTTED TABBY  
 BROWN SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE MINK SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL MINK SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SEPIA SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SEPIA SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER SPOTTED TABBY  
 SILVER SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER MINK SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER MINK SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER SEPIA SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER SEPIA SPOTTED TABBY

**LYNX POINT SPOTTED**

BLUE LYNX POINT SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL LYNX POINT SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT SPOTTED TABBY

**MARBLE**

BLUE MARBLE TABBY  
 BROWN MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE MINK MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL MINK MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SEPIA MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SEPIA MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER MARBLE TABBY  
 SILVER MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER MINK MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER MINK MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER SEPIA MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER SEPIA MARBLE TABBY

**LYNX POINT MARBLE**

BLUE LYNX POINT MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL LYNX POINT MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT MARBLE TABBY

**CHARCOAL SPOTTED**

BLUE CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BROWN CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE MINK CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL MINK CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SEPIA CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SEPIA CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SILVER CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER MINK CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER MINK CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY

**LYNX POINT CHARCOAL SPOTTED**

BLUE LYNX POINT CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL LYNX POINT CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL SPOTTED TABBY

**CHARCOAL MARBLE**

BLUE CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BROWN CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE MINK CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL MINK CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SEPIA CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SEPIA CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SILVER CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER MINK CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER MINK CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY

**LYNX POINT CHARCOAL MARBLE**

BLUE LYNX POINT CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL LYNX POINT CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY  
 SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL MARBLE TABBY

**Melanistic and Smoke patterns as well as  
 Longhair coats are not recognized,  
 but are registered as AOV.**

## Spotted, Marble, Lynx Point, Charcoal

### **BROWN TABBY:**

All variations of brown are allowed as the ground colour, ranging from buff, tan, honey gold, to orange. Markings may be various shades of tan, brown, and black. Extreme contrast between ground colour and markings. Lighter colour around the eyes. A much lighter ground colour to white on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly, and inner legs, in contrast to the ground colour of the flanks and back is desirable.

**Tail tip:** Dark brown.

**Nose leather:** Brick red, outlined in black.

**Paw pads:** From pink to brick red, with allowances for black or brown.

**Eye colour:** Shades of gold to green to hazel.

### **BLUE TABBY**

Ground colour is pale blue gray to slate blue gray. Markings medium blue to darker blue. Strong contrast between ground colour and markings. Warm fawn tones allowed on face, back, and legs. Underside and chest lighter in colour than ground colour. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes and lips is dark blue.

**Tail tip:** Dark Blue

**Nose leather:** Rose outlined in dark blue.

**Paw pads:** Aubergine (eggplant) purple.

**Eye colour:** Shades of gold to green to hazel.

### **SILVER TABBY:**

Ground colour ranges from clear silver white to pewter gray. Markings are medium gray to jet black with good contrast. Minimal to no warm tones present on face, back, and legs. Tarnish (rufusing) is undesirable. Colour on chest and belly lighter than ground colour. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes and lips is black.

**Tail tip:** Black

**Nose leather:** Brick red or black.

**Paw pads:** Black.

**Eye colour:** Shades of gold to green to hazel.

### **BLUE SILVER TABBY**

Ground colour is light blue silver. Markings are blue gray. Underside and chest bluish silver to glacial white. Lighter colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle. Skin pigment around eyes and lips is slate gray.

**Tail tip:** Blue

**Nose leather:** Rose, outlined in slate gray.

**Paw pads:** Blue/gray.

**Eye colour:** Shade of gold to green to hazel.

### **BLUE MINK TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from ivory to rich cream, with lighter colour on chest and belly. Markings are clearly visible and vary from medium blue to dark slate blue. The point colour should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Lighter colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle.

**Tail tip:** Dark slate blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

### **SEAL MINK TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from cream to light tan, with lighter colour on chest and belly. Markings are clearly visible and vary from medium tan, to chocolate, to dark seal brown. The point colour should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Lighter colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle.

**Tail tip:** Dark seal brown.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Black.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (shades of blue-green to turquoise).

### **BLUE SEPIA TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from medium tan to medium blue, with lighter colour on chest and belly. Markings are clearly visible and may be various shades of darker blue with warm fawn overtones. The point colour should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Lighter colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle.

**Tail tip:** Dark slate blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue.

**Eye colour:** Green gold.

### **SEAL SEPIA TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from cream to tan, with lighter colour on chest and belly. Markings are clearly visible and vary from dark seal brown to rich dark brown. The point colour should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Lighter colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle.

**Tail tip:** Dark seal brown.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Black.

**Eye colour:** Green gold.

### **BLUE SILVER MINK TABBY**

Ground colour is cream to silvery blue. Markings various shades of blue-gray. Underside and chest will range in colour from white to cream. Colour around the eyes, temple and muzzle is light cream in colour. Blue silver hues are most detectable on face, legs, back of ears and tail.



**Tail tip:** Blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Blue-gray with rose tones.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **SEAL SILVER MINK TABBY**

Body colour ranges from ivory to light tan. Tabby pattern ranging from cold bitter chocolate to brown. Ivory or cream whisker pads and chin desirable. Ears, nose bridge, and extremities grayish brown with lighter thumbprint in center of ear. Underside of the base of the tail silver white.

**Tail tip:** Dark brownish-black.

**Nose leather:** Brick red.

**Paw pads:** Dark brown with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **BLUE SILVER SEPIA TABBY**

Ground colour is cream to light brown, or silvery blue with warm fawn undertones. Markings various shades of blue to chocolate, with warm fawn overtones. Undersides and chest will be lighter than ground colour. Colour around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is cream to fawn. Blue silver hues are most detectable on face, legs, back of ears and tail.

**Tail tip:** Warm blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Blue with rose tones

**Eye colour:** Green or gold.

### **SEAL SILVER SEPIA TABBY**

Body color ranges from ivory to medium tan. Tabby pattern cold brown. Ivory or cream whisker pads and chin desirable. Seal coloring will be colder and duller than in the non-silver sepia tabby. Fur on ears can have a silvery gray cast. Ears cold brown with lighter thumbprint in the center. Underside of the tail silver white.

**Tail tip:** Dark brownish black.

**Nose leather:** Brick red.

**Paw pads:** Dark brown with rosy undertones.

**Eye color:** Gold to green.

## **LYNX POINT TABBY**

### **BLUE LYNX POINT TABBY**

Ground colour is ivory to cream; underside and chest will be lighter. Markings may be various shades of blue. Points vary from slate blue to warm blue. Point colour should not be significantly darker than the body markings. Back of ears has a lighter thumb print in the center of the ear.

**Tail tip:** Blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Blue-gray with rose tones.

**Eye color:** Blue.

### **SEAL LYNX POINT TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from ivory to cream, shading to lighter colour on belly and chest. Colour of markings may vary from light tan to dark seal brown. There should be very little or no difference between the colour of the body markings and point colour. Ears have a lighter thumb print on the back of the ear located in the center.

**Tail tip:** Dark brownish-black.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Dark seal brown.

**Eye color:** Blue.

### **BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT TABBY**

Ground color is ivory to light silver gray. Markings may be various shades of blue. Underside and chest will range in color from silvery white to light cream. Colour around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is silvery white. Silvery blue-gray hues are most detectable on face, legs, back of ears and tail.

**Tail tip:** Blue.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Blue-gray with rose tones.

**Eye color:** Blue.

### **SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT TABBY**

Ground colour ranges from icy white to pale cream, shading to lighter colour on belly and chest. There should be very little or no difference between the colour of the body markings and point colour. Points silvery gray to brownish black barring, distinctly separated by silvery ground colour. Seal colouring will be colder than non-silver seal lynx point. Ears silver toned with lighter thumbprint in center. Underside of tail silver white.

**Tail tip:** Dark brownish-black.

**Nose leather:** Pink to brick red.

**Paw pads:** Dark seal brown.

**Eye color:** Blue.

## **CHARCOAL TABBY**

*The Charcoal influence of the Spotted and Marble patterns result in ground colour that is shades darker than typical for those individual colour descriptions.*

### **BLUE CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Blue Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

### **BROWN CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Brown Tabby Bengal patterns, however, the Charcoal Brown colours are cold browns with no warm tones and with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE MINK CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Blue Mink Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

CONTINUED...

**SEAL MINK CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Seal Mink Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE SEPIA CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Blue Sepia Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SEAL SEPIA CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Seal Sepia Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE SILVER CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as regular Blue Silver Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SILVER CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as regular Silver Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE SILVER MINK CHARCOAL**

Same as the regular Blue Silver Mink Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SEAL SILVER MINK CHARCOAL**

Same as the regular Seal Silver Mink Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL**

Same as the regular Blue Silver Sepia Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SEAL SILVER SEPIA CHARCOAL**

Same as the regular Seal Silver Sepia Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE LYNX POINT CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Blue Lynx Point Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SEAL LYNX POINT CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Seal Lynx Point Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**BLUE SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Blue Silver Lynx Point Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**SEAL SILVER LYNX POINT CHARCOAL TABBY**

Same as the regular Seal Silver Lynx Point Tabby Bengal patterns with the addition of the Mask, Goggles, and Cape.

**AOV COLOUR  
DESCRIPTIONS NEXT PAGE...**

## AOV Pattern / Colour Descriptions

### **BLACK MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is jet black, with sound colour throughout coat. Underside and chest will be jet black as the ground colour. No warm tones should be present. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is black. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black.

**Tail tip:** Black.

**Nose leather:** Black.

**Paw pads:** Black.

**Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

### **BLUE MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is an even blue, ranging from blue-grey to deep slate grey. Underside and chest will be uniform to body colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle is blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is blue to slate grey.

**Tail tip:** Blue-grey to deep slate grey.

**Nose leather:** Dark blue, or rose.

**Paw pads:** Dark blue to slate grey, may have rosy undertones.

**Eye color:** Green, gold, or hazel.

### **BLUE MINK MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is blue to a warm medium blue, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from dark warm blue to dark slate blue.

**Tail tip:** Blue.

**Nose leather:** Slate blue.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **SEAL MINK MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is tan to a warm medium brown, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from dark chocolate to sable brown.

**Tail tip:** Dark chocolate to sable brown.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw pads:** Brownish-black with rosy undertones.

**Eye color:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **BLUE SEPIA MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is rich, warm blue, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour will be slightly darker than body colour.

**Tail tip:** Blue

**Nose leather:** Blue.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Green or Gold.

### **SEAL SEPIA MELANISTIC**

Ground colour is rich, warm, sable brown, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour will be slightly darker than body colour.

**Tail tip:** Sable brown.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw pads:** Brownish-black with rosy undertones.

**Eye color:** Green or Gold.

### **BLUE POINT MELANISTIC**

Ground colour ranges from ivory to creamy blue to soft blue-gray, with chest and belly being a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from warm blue to slate blue.

**Tail tip:** Blue

**Nose leather:** Blue.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Blue.

### **SEAL POINT MELANISTIC**

Ground colour ranges from ivory to creamy beige to tan, with chest and belly a lighter shade of ground colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from warm seal brown to brownish-black.

**Tail tip:** Brownish-black.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw pads:** Brownish-black with rosy undertones.

**Eye color:** Blue.

### **BLACK SMOKE**

Black with a silvery white undercoat. Chest and belly may appear gray, shading down to silvery white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is smoky gray. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black.

**Tail tip:** Black with white at roots.

**Nose leather:** Black.

**Paw pads:** Black.

**Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

### **BLUE SMOKE**

Medium to slate blue with a bluish-white undercoat. Chest and belly lighter blue shading down to bluish-white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is smoky blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dark blue to slate gray.

**Tail tip:** Blue with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Dark blue, or rose outlined in blue.

## AOV Pattern / Colour Descriptions

### **BLUE SMOKE CONTINUED...**

**Paw pads:** Dark blue to slate gray.

**Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

### **BLUE MINK SMOKE**

Ground colour is grayish light blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Blue with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Blue.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **SEAL MINK SMOKE**

Ground colour is grayish light brown, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Brownish-black with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw pads:** Brownish-black, with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Aqua (blue-green to turquoise).

### **BLUE SEPIA SMOKE**

Ground colour is warm smoky blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Blue with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Blue.

**Paw Pad:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Green or gold.

### **SEAL SEPIA SMOKE**

Ground colour is grayish, smoky, sable brown, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent

on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Brownish-black with white root.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw Pad:** Brownish-black with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Green or gold.

### **BLUE SMOKE POINT**

Ground colour is pale cream to creamy blue, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Blue with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Blue.

**Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Blue.

### **SEAL SMOKE POINT**

Ground colour is pale fawn to creamy beige, with a white undercoat, which alters the appearance of the point colour. Point colour will appear lighter, and this is not a fault. Where fur is long enough to part, a white undercoat will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

**Tail tip:** Brownish-black with white at root.

**Nose leather:** Brownish-black.

**Paw pads:** Brownish black, with rosy undertones.

**Eye colour:** Blue.

## AOV COAT LENGTH

### **LONGHAIR BENGAL**

The Longhair Bengal can come in any allowed colour/pattern combination. Coat is semi-long haired, with a fine and luxurious texture, not cottony or wooly. The coat creates a harmonious transition with the longer parts flowing gently into the shorter ones. Coat lies close to the body. Pattern shall be clearly visible. Hair around head and neck may be slightly longer. A slightly fuller coat on the back of neck is accepted. Extremely thick, full coat on back of neck, or a ruff, is undesirable. Ears shall not be tufted, but slight ear tips are allowed. Strong ear tufts, spoiling the rounded impression of the ear are not desirable. Tail shall be slightly longer haired creating a plumed impression.

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***Refer to Breed Standard and General Preface for disqualifications and objections not listed here.***



# 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.

## 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.

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.