

BIRMAN (SACRED CAT OF BURMA)

The Sacred Cat of Burma is a **semi-long** haired, pointed cat with distinctive white feet. They are **impressive** in appearance, medium to large in size.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (25)

(15) **BODY** – Full bodied, medium long, sturdy cat with a level back. The overall size is medium to large.

(5) **LEGS & FEET** – Medium in length, heavy and well muscled in proportion to the body. Paws are large, rounded and firm.

(5) **TAIL** – Medium in length and in proportion to the body. Bushy and carried erect.

II – HEAD TYPE (30)

(5) **FRONT VIEW** – Strong, broad and rounded. Cheek bones are full, high and prominent. Muzzle is medium in length and width, in proportion to size of head. Chin is well developed, forming a perpendicular line with the upper lip.

(5) **PROFILE** – Slightly longer than wide. Forehead slopes back with slight flat spot in middle of forehead jut in front of the ears. Top head is rounded. A definite stop (no break) between forehead and Roman nose.

(5) **NOSE** – Roman in shape, medium in length with nostrils set low.

(5) **EARS** – Medium in size, almost as wide at base as tall, round tipped, spaced well apart and set as much on the side as on the top of the head.

(5) **EYES** – Large, rounded, slightly almond in shape, tilting slightly up at the outside corner. Eyes set wide apart, sweet, open expression.

(5) **EYE COLOUR** – Blue, the deeper the colour the better.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (10)

Medium long to long, silky, slightly curly on stomach. The texture is such that the coat does not matt. Heavy ruff around the neck is desirable.

IV – COLOUR (30)

(5) **BODY** – Birman are pointed cats. Coat colour ideally is as clear as possible. Shading, if any, should compliment point colour. Ideally there should be good contrast between point and coat colour.

(10) **POINTS** – The mask, ears, legs and tail should have dense, clearly defined and of the same shade. Allowance may be given to young cats for inconsistent development of point colour.

(5) **FRONT PAWS** – Pure white symmetrical gloves ending in an even line across the paw. Ideally, the gloves should extend as high and not beyond the third joint (the angle formed by the paw and leg). Colour of paw pads is irrelevant.

(5) **BACK PAWS** – Pure white gloves covering the entire paw. May extend up somewhat higher than front gloves. Colour of paw pads is irrelevant.

(5) **LACES** – Gloves on the back paws extend up the back of the leg and end in a point or inverted 'V' just below the hock (laces). Laces may not extend above the hock and lower laces (1/4 to 3/4) are acceptable. Evenly matched gloves and laces are desirable.

V – CONDITION & BALANCE (5)

Birmans should be presented in good physical condition, well groomed and clean. Birmans are well balanced, and not extreme in any way. Proper proportions and balance are more important than size. The balanced cat will show harmony of line throughout. Birmans are gentle, playful and happy cats.

OBJECTIONS

DEDUCT

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| * White that does not run across the paws in a straight line. | 1-3 |
| * Gloves or laces that are not symmetrical. | 2-5 |
| * Runners (streaks of white extending from the gloves) that extend beyond the metacarpal pad (front) or just above the hock joint on the back legs. | 2-5 |
| * Siamese or Persian type of head and/ or body. | 3-6 |
| * Straight nose. | 1-3 |
| * Pale or light blue eye colour. | 5 |

WITHHOLDS

- * Lack of white gloves on any foot.
- * Laces which extend above the hock.
- * Isolated white in point colour. IF a white spot on a leg or paw is NOT connected to a glove or lace, it is considered isolated. As long as the white is connected to a paw pad/leather it is NOT considered isolated. Paw pads/leather may be pink or contain colour consistent with the point colour.
- * Isolated spot of point colour in gloves/laces if not connected to the point colour. Paw pads/leather may be pink or contain colour consistent with the point colour.
- * Lack of laces on one or both hocks.
- * 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:	No Foundation Allowed
SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:	No Foundation Allowed
ALLOWED ANCESTRY:	Birman, Himalayan, Colourpoint Shorthair
ALLOWED MATINGS:	Birman
