

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** – Birmans 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

* 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 Only

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Refer to General Preface at the end of this document for disqualifications and objections not listed here.

SOLID POINT

BLUE POINT
CHOCOLATE POINT
CREAM POINT
LILAC POINT
RED POINT
SEAL POINT

TORTIE POINT

BLUE-CREAM POINT
CHOCOLATE TORTIE POINT
LILAC-CREAM POINT
SEAL TORTIE POINT

LYNX POINT

BLUE LYNX POINT
CHOCOLATE LYNX POINT
CREAM LYNX POINT
LILAC LYNX POINT
RED LYNX POINT
SEAL LYNX POINT

TORTIE LYNX POINT

BLUE-CREAM LYNX POINT
CHOCOLATE TORTIE LYNX POINT
LILAC-CREAM LYNX POINT
SEAL TORTIE LYNX POINT

Please refer to the individual breed standard for description of pattern markings.

SOLID POINT COLOURS

BLUE POINT

Point Colour: Deep grayish-blue. All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: Even bluish-white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Slate blue.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Fawn or cream shadings.

CHOCOLATE POINT

Point Colour: Warm milk chocolate. All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: Ivory without lilac or blue tones. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Cinnamon pink.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Lilac or blue shading.

CREAM POINT

Point Colour: Pale cream. All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: White without shading.

Nose Leather: Flesh pink.

Paw Pads: Pink.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leather. Shading on body.

LILAC POINT

Point Colour: Light silvery blue with slight pink tone. All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: Even glacial white without tan, brown, or blue tones.

Nose Leather: Lavender pink.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leather. Tan, brown, or blue shadings.

RED POINT

Point Colour: Deep orange-red. Kittens may have a lighter shade (hot cream to orange). All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: Creamy white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Coral pink.

Paw Pads: Pink.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Pale point colour (overall impression of point colour is hot)

Withhold Awards: Black or blue patches in nose or paw leathers. Any sign of tortoiseshell pattern.

SEAL POINT

Point Colour: Deep seal -brown. All points should be the same even shade.

Coat: Even pale cream or ivory. Shadings if any are a warm fawn colour.

Nose Leather: Dark seal-brown.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Black or gray shadings.

TORTIE POINT COLOURS

BLUE-CREAM POINT

Point Colour: Well defined patches of blue and cream. It is desirable that blue and cream be evident on all point areas.

Coat: Even bluish white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Slate gray, may be mottled with pink.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Tabby markings. Lack of two colours on points. Brindled colours instead of patches of colour.

CHOCOLATE TORTIE POINT

Point Colour: Milk chocolate with patches of cream. All points should be the same shade. It is desirable that chocolate and cream be evident on all point areas.

Coat: Even ivory. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Cinnamon, mottled pink and chocolate.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Tabby markings. Lack of two colours on points. Brindled colours instead of patches of colour.

LILAC-CREAM POINT

Point Colour: Warm silver blue with pink overtones patched with cream. All points should be the same shade. It is desirable that lilac and cream be evident on all

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead.

patched with cream. All points should be the same shade. It is desirable that lilac and cream be evident on all point areas.

Coat: Glacial white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Lavender, mottled with pink.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Tabby markings. Lack of two colours on points. Brindled colours instead of patches of colour.

SEAL TORTIE POINT

Point Colour: Dark seal brown with well defined patches of red. All points should be the same shade. It is desirable that seal and cream be evident on all point areas.

Coat: Even pale creamy white to pale cream. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Nose Leather: Seal brown mottled with pink.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Tabby markings. Lack of two colours on points. Brindled colours instead of patches of colour.

LYNX POINT COLOURS

BLUE LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Silvery blue with deep grayish-blue tabby markings on a light beige ground colour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Even bluish-white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink or brick red outlined in slate blue.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

CHOCOLATE LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Warm milk chocolate tabby markings on a light bronze ground colour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Even ivory without lilac or blue tones. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical

tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink to brick outlined with chocolate.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats. Blue or lilac tones.

CREAM LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Cream tabby markings on a lighter cream ground colour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Cream white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink to brick outlined in cream.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

LILAC LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Frosty blue with pink overtones, tabby markings a darker shade of lilac blue on a pale beige ground colour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Glacial white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink to rose edged with lavender.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

RED LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Deep red tabby markings on a light apricot ground colour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Cream white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink to rose outlined in brick red.

Paw Pads: Pink.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

SEAL LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Seal brown tabby markings on lighter brown groundcolour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Pale cream to fawn. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink to brick red outlined in Seal brown.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

TORTIE LYNX POINT COLOURS

BLUE-CREAM LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Blue tabby markings patched with cream on a light beige groundcolour.

Coat: Even bluish white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink, slate blue, pink mottled with blue.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

CHOCOLATE TORTIE LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Milk chocolate tabby markings patched with cream on a light bronze groundcolour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Even ivory. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead.

Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink, mottled pink and chocolate, solid chocolate.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

LILAC-CREAM LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Silvery blue with pink overtones, tabby markings a darker shade of lilac patched with cream on a pale beige background. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Glacial white. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink, mottled pink and lavender, solid lavender.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

SEAL TORTIE LYNX POINT

Point Colour: Seal brown tabby markings patched with red on a pale brown groundcolour. All points should be the same shade.

Coat: Even pale cream to fawn. Shadings if any are the shade of the points.

Pattern: The mask must be clearly marked with typical tabby markings including a classic “M” on the forehead. Eyes are outlined in dark pigment. Inner ear is light and a thumb print appears on the outer ear. Stripes on the legs and tail.

Nose Leather: Pink, seal brown, pink mottled with seal brown.

Paw Pads: Pink. Spots of point colour permitted.

Eye Colour: Clear brilliant blue. Deep blue preferred.

Objections: Improper colour nose or paw leathers. Stripes or mottling on body, but consideration is to be given to shading in older cats.

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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.