

OCICAT

The Ocicat is a large, well-spotted, agouti patterned cat of moderate type. Ocicats display the look of an athletic animal. They are well muscled, solid, graceful and lithe, yet possess a fullness of body and chest. Ocicats are alert to their surroundings and show great vitality. The Ocicat exists in many colours with the darker spots appearing on a lighter background. Moreover, each hair (except on the tip of the tail) has several bands of colour. It is where these bands fall together that a thumb print shape spot is formed. This powerful, athletic, large, yet graceful spotted cat is particularly noted for its feral appearance.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (25)

(15) **BODY** – The body size is large; although, generally, females are smaller than males. Ocicats are surprisingly heavy for their size. The torso is solid, rather long with depth and fullness but it never appears coarse. There is substantial bone and muscle development, thus giving an athletic appearance. The ribs appear slightly sprung, thus giving the impression of depth of chest. The back is level, but rises slightly forward in the rear; whereas the flank is reasonably level. Preference in this trait is given to the cat which appears athletic, powerful and lithe.

(5) **LEGS & FEET** – The legs should be of good substance and well muscled. The legs are medium-long, powerful and are in good proportion with the rest of the body. The feet should be oval and compact and be in good proportion with the legs.

(5) **TAIL** – The tail is fairly long but medium-slim with only a slight taper at the tip. The tip of the tail is dark.

II – HEAD TYPE (20)

(5) **SKULL**: The skull is medium wedge which displays a slight curve from muzzle to each cheek. The head should be in pleasing proportion with the cat's body. The head should be carried gracefully on an arching neck. Allowance should be made for jowls in mature males.

(5) **MUZZLE** – The muzzle is well defined with a suggestion of squareness. In profile, the muzzle shows good length, a strong chin and there is no suggestion of snippiness. The jaw should be firm with a proper bite.

(5) **EARS** – Ears are alert, moderately large and set so as to corner the upper, outside dimensions of the face. When they occur, ear tufts extend vertically from the tips of the ears.

(5) **EYES** – The eyes are large, almond shape and angle slightly upwards toward the ears. There is more than the length of one eye between the eyes.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (5)

The coat is fine in texture with a lustrous sheen. It is close-lying and sleek, yet long enough to accommodate the necessary (agouti) bands of colour. There should be no suggestion of woolliness or excessive coat length.

IV – COLOUR (50)

(5) **COLOUR** – All colours should be clear and pleasing. The lightest colour is found usually on the face round the eyes, on the chin, and on the lower jaw. The darkest colour is found on the tip of the tail.

(5) **TICKING** – All hairs except on the tip of the tail are banded. Within the markings, hairs are tipped with a darker colour while hairs in the ground colour are tipped with a lighter colour.

(10) **CONTRAST**: Distinctive markings should be clearly seen from any orientation. Markings on the face, legs and tail may be darker than those on the torso. The ground colour may be darker on the saddle and lighter on the undersides, chin and lower jaw of the cat. It must be remembered that pale colours will show less contrast than darker colours. Spotting must always be clear and distinct.

(25) **PATTERN** – There is an intricate tabby “M” shape on the forehead. Markings extend up and over the head between the ears and break into small spots on the lower neck and shoulders. Mascara markings are found around the eyes and on the cheeks. Rows of round spots run along the spine from the shoulder blades to the tail. The tail has horizontal brush strokes down the tip which, ideally, alternate with spots and end in a dark tip. Spots are scattered across the shoulders and hindquarters. These spots extend as far as possible down the legs. There are broken bracelets on the lower legs and broken necklaces in the throat region - the more broken, the better. Large, well scattered thump prints shape spots appear on the sides of the torso. There is a subtle suggestion of a Classic Tabby pattern, i.e. – a spot circled by spots in place on the bull's eye. The belly is well spotted too. The eyes are rimmed with the darkest coat colour and they are surrounded by the lightest coat colour. Spots must not elongate as if following a Mackerel Tabby pattern.

(5) **EYE COLOUR** – All eye colours except blue are allowed. There is no correspondence between eye colour and coat colour. Depth, evenness and brilliance of colours are preferred.

V – CONDITION AND BALANCE

The ideal Ocicat should be large, well muscled, solid, graceful, lithe and possess a fullness of body and chest.

OBJECTIONS

	DEDUCT
* Woolly or long coat.	1-3
* Bulky or coarse body.	2-5
* Faint or blurred spotting.	2-5
* Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.	3-7

WITHHOLDS

- * Blue eyes.
- * White lockets or spotting or white anywhere other than around the eyes, nostrils, chin and upper throat regions (except white agouti ground colour in colours containing silver).
- * Due to the Spotted Patched Tabby (Tortie) cats resulting from the sex-link “O” gene— no Reds, Creams or Torbie are allowed. Very rufous Cinnamons or Fawns may resemble Red or Cream but these colours never produce female Torbies.
- * 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:	F2 Allowed.
SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:	F2 allowed
ALLOWED ANCESTRY:	Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese
ALLOWED MATINGS:	Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese

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SPOTTED

BLUE SPOTTED

CHOCOLATE SPOTTED

CINNAMON SPOTTED

FAWN SPOTTED

LAVENDER SPOTTED

TAWNY SPOTTED

SILVER SPOTTED

BLUE SILVER SPOTTED

CHOCOLATE SILVER SPOTTED

CINNAMON SILVER SPOTTED

FAWN SILVER SPOTTED

LAVENDER SILVER SPOTTED

SILVER SPOTTED

OCICAT

BLUE SPOTTED

Coat: Blue spotting on a pale blue, or buff agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with dark blue.
Paw Pads: Blue
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

BLUE SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Blue spotting on a white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with dark blue.
Paw Pads: Lavender pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

CHOCOLATE SPOTTED

Coat: Chocolate spotting on a warm, ivory agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with chocolate.
Paw Pads: Chocolate pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

CHOCOLATE SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Chocolate spotting on a white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with chocolate.
Paw Pads: Chocolate pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

CINNAMON SPOTTED

Coat: Cinnamon spotting on a warm, ivory agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with cinnamon.
Paw Pads: Pink or rose.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

CINNAMON SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Cinnamon spotting on a white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with cinnamon.
Paw Pads: Pink or rose.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

FAWN SPOTTED

Coat: Fawn spotting on a pale, ivory agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with fawn.
Paw Pads: Pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

FAWN SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Fawn spotting on a white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with fawn.
Paw Pads: Pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

LAVENDER SPOTTED

Coat: Lavender spotting on a pale buff, or ivory agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with dark lavender.
Paw Pads: Lavender pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

LAVENDER SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Lavender spotting on a white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Pink rimmed with lavender.
Paw Pads: Pink.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

SILVER SPOTTED

Coat: Black spotting on a silver/white agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Brick red rimmed with black.
Paw Pads: Black.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

TAWNY SPOTTED

Coat: Black or dark brown spotting on a ruddy or bronze agouti ground colour.
Nose Leather: Brick red rimmed with black.
Paw Pads: Black or seal.
Eye Colour: Any eye colour, except blue.
Objections: Faint or blurred spotting. Elongated spots in a Mackerel pattern.
Withhold Awards: Blue eyes.

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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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