

BREED ABYSSINIAN

GENERAL The overall impression of the ideal Abyssinian would be a colorful cat with a distinctly ticked coat, medium in size and regal in appearance. The Abyssinian is lithe, hard and muscular, showing eager activity and a lively interest in all surroundings. Well balanced temperamentally and physically with all elements of the cat in proportion.

HEAD	SHAPE	Modified wedge with rounded contours as viewed from the front. A rise from the bridge of the nose to the forehead without evidence of a sharp break. The head should be of ample length in general balance with the rest of the cat and gently curved from the forehead over the skull flowing into an arched neck.
	EYES	The eyes are large, brilliant and expressive, slightly almond-shaped and set wide apart. The eye colour is pure and clear, amber to green. In the silver varieties green is preferred. The eye lids are encircled (eye rims) with the colour of the ticking in all colour varieties.
	EARS	Alert, large, and moderately pointed; broad, and cupped at base and set as though listening. Hair on ears very short and close lying, preferably tipped with black on a ruddy Abyssinian, chocolate- brown on a red Abyssinian, slate blue on the blue Abyssinian, or light cocoa brown on a fawn Abyssinian.
	PROFILE	Without flat planes, showing gently curved transition between brow, nose and muzzle.
	MUZZLE/CHIN	Not sharply pointed or square. The chin should be neither receding nor protruding. Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males.
BODY	TORSO	Medium long, lithe and graceful, but showing well developed muscular strength without coarseness. Abyssinian conformation strikes a medium between the extremes of the cobby and the svelte lengthy type. Proportion and general balance more to be desired than mere size.
	LEGS AND FEET	Proportionately slim, fine boned. The Abyssinian stands well off the ground giving the impression of being on tip toe. Paws small, oval, and compact. Toes: five in front and four behind.
	TAIL	Thick at base, fairly long and tapering.
	MUSCULATURE	Well-developed muscular strength without coarseness and solid to the feel.

**COAT
COLOR
PATTERN**

TEXTURE

Soft, silky, fine in texture, but dense and resilient to the touch with a lustrous sheen, the undercoat should be adequate enough to avoid any evidence of slickness. Woolliness undesirable.

PATTERN

Double or preferably triple banding on each single hair. The ticking shall be extended evenly and without stripes over the entire body. The line along the spine (eel line), the tail tip and the plantar side of the hind paws are coloured intensely in the colour of the ticking. The chest, belly and the inner side of the legs are without ticking and of the corresponding base colour

LENGTH

Medium length, long enough to accommodate four to six alternating light and dark colored bands. The coat lies fairly close to the body. Coat is longest at the spine, gradually shortening over the saddle, flank, legs and head.

COLOR

Warm and glowing. Ticking: distinct and even, with dark (tail tip color) colored bands contrasting with undercoat colored bands on the hair shafts. Undercoat color clear and bright to the skin. Deeper color shades desired, however intensity of ticking not to be sacrificed for depth of color. Darker shading along spine allowed if fully ticked. Preference given to cats UNMARKED on the undersides, chest, and legs; tail without rings. Facial Markings: dark lines extending from eyes and brows, cheekbone shading, dots and shading on whisker pads are all desirable enhancements. Eyes accentuated by fine dark line, encircled by light colored area. Eye color: gold or green, the more richness and depth of color the better.

COLOR VARIETIES

Ruddy, black silver, blue, blue silver, sorrel (cinnamon), sorrel (cinnamon) silver, fawn, fawn silver

PENALIZE

Stripes on the front legs
Broken necklace
Grey or too light undercoat
Too little ticking
Ghost markings
Missing eye rims
White extending beyond the chin

DISQUALIFY

- White medallion
- Unbroken necklace
- Stripes on all 4 legs
- Large amount of grey undercoat

SCORE

Head
30 points

- Shape 8
- Ears 5
- Eyes 5
- Muzzle 6
- Profile 6

Body
30 points

- Torso 8
- Legs and feet 8
- Tail 5
- Boning 4
- Musculature 5

Coat/Color/Pattern
30 points

- Texture 5
- Length 5
- Ticking 10
- Color 10

Others
10 points

- Condition 3
- Grooming 2
- Balance 2
- Temperament 3

OUTCROSS

None