

BREED AMERICAN SHORTHAIR

GENERAL The American Shorthair is a true breed of working cat. The conformation should be adapted for this with no part of the anatomy so exaggerated as to foster weakness. The general effect should be that of a strongly built, well balanced, symmetrical cat with conformation indicating power, endurance, and agility. The body should be well-knit and powerful with well-developed chest and hindquarters, especially in the males. Females are of proportionally smaller size and allowance must be made. The head is broad, with cheeks especially well-developed in studs. The nose and face are medium-short, with eyes and ears set wide apart. The muzzle should present a squarish aspect, but should not be foreshortened.

HEAD

SHAPE

Broad, medium size, rounded, rounded skull, large, with full-cheeked face giving the impression of an oblong just slightly longer than wide. Sweet, open expression. Viewed from front, head can be divided in two equal parts, from base of ears to middle of eyes and from middle of eyes to chin tip. Viewed in profile, forehead forms smooth, moderately convex continuous curve flowing over top of head into neck. Viewed from front, there is no dome between ears.

EYES

Color and shape are valued equally; large and wide with upper lid shaped like half an almond (cut lengthwise) and lower lid shaped in a fully rounded curve. At least width of one eye between eyes. Outer corners set very slightly higher than inner corners. Bright, clear and alert. The eye colour shall be even and corresponds with the coat colour. In silver colours only green is permitted, in brown tabbies only golden.

EARS

Medium size, slightly rounded at tips and not unduly open at base. Distance between ears, measured from lower inner corners, twice distance between eyes.

PROFILE

With a modified stop, firm and well-developed, forming perpendicular line with upper lip.

CHIN

Full, strong chin completes squarish effect of the muzzle. firm and well-developed, forming perpendicular line with upper lip. strong and long enough to successfully grasp prey. Both level and scissors bites considered equally correct. (In level bite, top and bottom front teeth meet evenly. In scissors bite, inside edge of top front teeth touch outside edge of lower front teeth.)

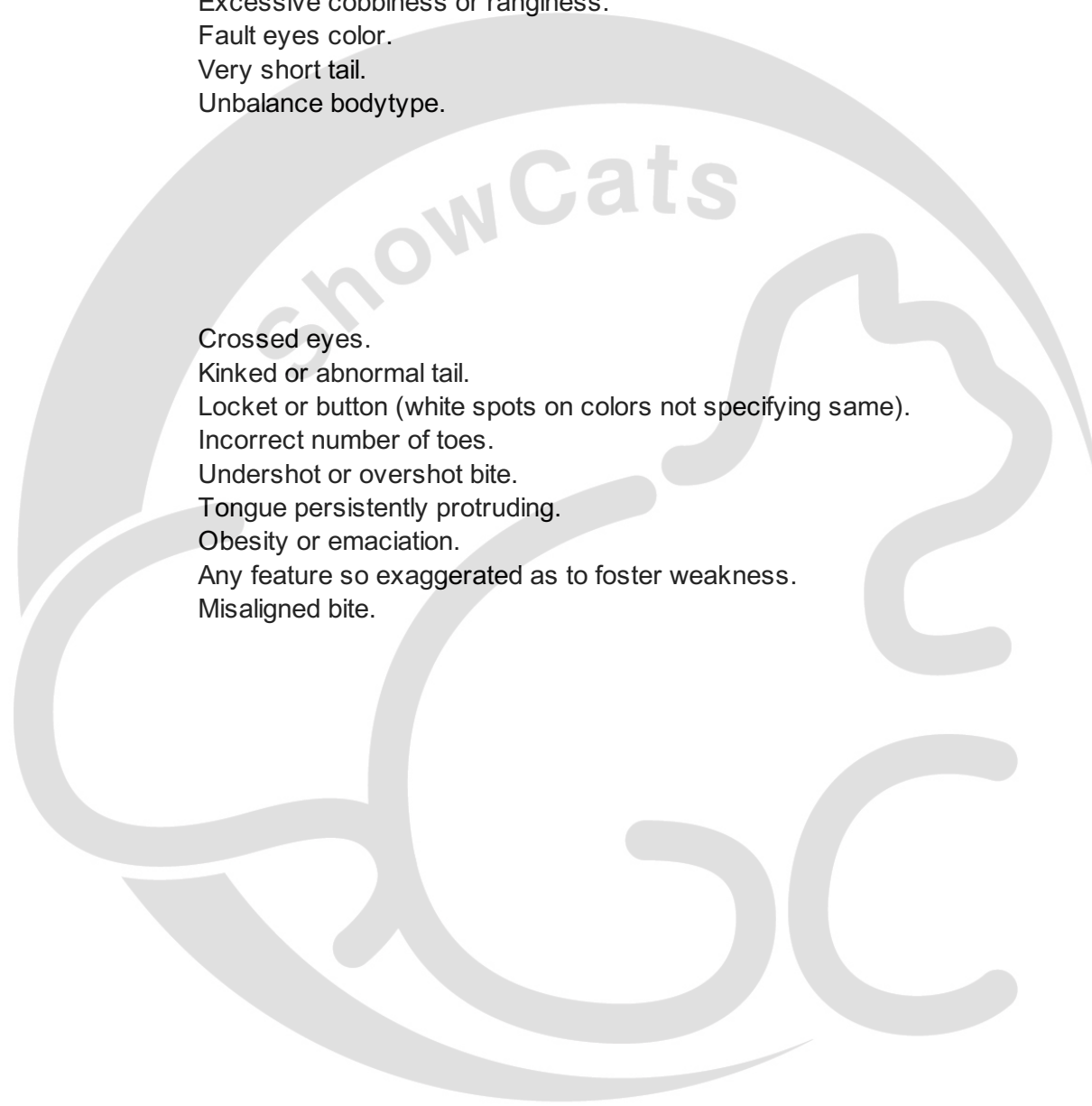
	MUZZLE	Medium-short muzzle with squarish appearance. squared. Definite jowls in mature males.
	NOSE	Medium length, same width for entire length. Viewed in profile, gentle concavely curved rise from bridge of nose to forehead.
	NECK	In proportion to body, medium in length, muscular and strong. neither too short and thick no too long and thin.
BODY	TORSO	Medium in length, rectangular in shape rather than slender but well rounded and in proportion, broad chest, solidly built, powerful, and muscular with well-developed shoulders, chest, and hindquarters. Back broad, straight and level. Viewed in profile, slight slope down from hip bone to base of tail. Viewed from above, outer lines of body parallel.
	LEGS AND FEET	The legs are medium in length and bone, heavily muscled. Viewed from rear, all four legs straight and parallel with paws facing forward. The feet should be firm, full and rounded, with heavy pads.
	TAIL	Medium length, thicker at base, tapering from well-rounded rump to a rounded tip. Taper is slight, neither blunt nor pointed, carried almost level with back, in proportion to body.
	MUSCULATURE	Well-knit, firm muscle tone, hard, not soft or flabby.
COAT COLOR PATTERN	TEXTURE	Hard, dense, firm and glossy. Natural protective appearance, lustrous but close-lying.
	LENGTH	Short, even coat.
	COLOR VARIETIES	The colours chocolate and cinnamon, as well as their dilution (lilac and fawn) are not recognized in any combinations (bicolour, tricolour, tabby). The pointed pattern is also not recognized. All other colours and patterns are recognized. The description of colours is listed in the general list of colours.

PENALIZE

Excessive cobbiness or ranginess.
Fault eyes color.
Very short tail.
Unbalance bodytype.

DISQUALIFY

Crossed eyes.
Kinked or abnormal tail.
Locket or button (white spots on colors not specifying same).
Incorrect number of toes.
Undershot or overshot bite.
Tongue persistently protruding.
Obesity or emaciation.
Any feature so exaggerated as to foster weakness.
Misaligned bite.



SCORE

Head
40 points

Shape	5
Ears	5
Eyes	6
Chin	5
Muzzle	5
Nose	5
Neck	4
Profile	5

Body
35 points

Torso	8
Legs	4
Feet	4
Tail	4
Boning	5
Musculature	10

Coat/Color/Pattern
15 points

Texture	5
Pattern Color	6
Length	4

Others
10 points

Condition	3
Grooming	2
Balance	2
Temperament	3

OUTCROSS

None

