

# **BREED SOMALI**

**GENERAL** The overall impression of the Somali is that of a well proportioned medium to large cat, firm muscular development, lithe, showing an alert, lively interest in all surroundings, with an even disposition and easy to handle. The cat is to give the appearance of activity, sound health, and general vigor.

<b>HEAD</b>	<b>SHAPE</b>	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.
	<b>EYES</b>	Almond shaped, large, brilliant and expressive. Skull aperture follows almond shape of eyes being neither round nor oriental. Eyes accentuated by darker lid skin, encircled by a light colored area. Above each eye appears a short vertical darker pencil stroke amidst the light area. At the sides of each eye appears a curved darker pencil line as if a continuation of the upper eyelid. Eye Color to be gold, copper, green or hazel, the more richness and depth of color the better. There is no relationship between coat and eye color. Points shall be divided equally between shape and color.
	<b>EARS</b>	Large, alert, moderately pointed, broad, and cupped at the base. Ear set on a line towards the rear of the skull. The inner ear shall have horizontal tufts that reach nearly to the other side of the ear; tufts desirable.
	<b>PROFILE</b>	Without flat planes, showing gently curved transition between brow, nose and muzzle.
	<b>MUZZLE/CHIN</b>	The muzzle shall follow gentle contours in conformity with the head as viewed from the front and in profile. The chin should be neither receding nor protruding. The muzzle shall not be sharply pointed and there shall be no evidence of snippiness, foxy appearance or whisker pinch. Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males.
<b>BODY</b>	<b>TORSO</b>	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.
	<b>LEGS AND FEET</b>	Legs in proportion to torso; feet oval and compact. When standing, the Somali gives the impression of being nimble and quick. Toes: five in front and four in back.

**TAIL** Having a full brush, thick at the base, and slightly tapering. Length in balance with torso.

**MUSCULATURE** Well-developed muscular strength without coarseness and solid to the feel.

**COAT  
COLOR  
PATTERN**

**TEXTURE** Texture very soft to the touch, extremely fine and double coated. The more dense the coat, the better.

**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** Semi-long length, except over shoulders where a slightly shorter length is permitted. The more dense the coat the better. Preference is to be given to a cat with ruff and breeches.

**COLOR** Warm and glowing. Ticking: distinct and even, with dark colored bands contrasting with lighter 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. Preference given to cats UNMARKED on the undersides, chest, and legs; tail without rings. Markings: darker shading along spine continuing through tip of tail; darker shading up the hocks, shading allowed at the point of the elbow; dark lines extending from eyes and brows, cheekbone shading, dots and shading on whisker pads are 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
- Black roots of the hair

**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
- Ticking 10
- Length 5
- Color 10

**Others**  
10 points

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

**OUTCROSS**

Abyssinian (Not For Recognized and Not For Show: the next generation with shorthair)