

## **ABYSSINIAN**

### **Standard of Excellence**

#### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The overall impression of the ideal Abyssinian would be a colourful 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.

<b>Head</b>	A modified, slightly rounded wedge without flat planes; brow, cheek and profile lines all showing a gentle contour. A slight rise from the bridge of the nose to the forehead, which should be of good size, with width between the ears and flowing into the arched neck without a break.
<b>Muzzle</b>	A firm chin not sharply pointed or square, should be neither receding nor protruding. Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males.
<b>Ears</b>	Alert, comparatively large and moderately pointed, broad and cupped at the base and set wide apart. Hair on the ears, short and close lying and preferably tufted.
<b>Eyes</b>	Almond shaped (neither round nor oriental), large brilliant and expressive. Eyes accentuated by dark lid skin, encircled by light-coloured area. <b>Colour</b> - Amber, Hazel or Green.
<b>Body</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 &amp; Feet</b>	Proportionately slim, medium-fine boned. The Abyssinian stands well off the ground, giving the impression of being on tiptoe. Paws small, oval and compact.
<b>Tail</b>	Broad at base, fairly long and tapering.
<b>Coat</b>	Soft, silky, fine in texture but dense and resilient to the touch, with a lustrous sheen. Short to medium in length but long enough to accommodate two or three bands of ticking.  The underside of the body, chest and innersides of the legs uniformly coloured with the ground colour, harmonizing with the upper parts of the body, without any ticking, bars, necklaces or markings on stomach or belly. Darker shading along the spine line. White or off-white only above the lips, beside the nostrils and down the chin permitted as long as it does not extend to the chest. The tips of the ears are in the same colour as the ticking. The back of the hind feet is dark, hairtufts between the toes are in the same colour as the ticking. The colour of the tail is an extension of the darker shading along the spine and ends in a solid dark tip, coloured with the colour of the ticking, without any rings.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hair tips to be darkest, with the undercoat clear to the roots.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Necklace</b>	If present, must be broken.

<b>Undesirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-colour pads.</li> <li>• Long narrow or short round head.</li> <li>• Barring on legs.</li> <li>• Rings on tail.</li> <li>• Coldness or grey tone in the coat, - <b>allowances made for around the elbows.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Withhold First Place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White locket.</li> <li>• White extending onto the chest.</li> <li>• Too little or lack of ticking in parts of coat where desired.</li> <li>• Unbroken necklace.</li> <li>• Grey undercoat close to skin, extending throughout a major portion of the body.</li> <li>• A visible kink.</li> </ul>

<b>RECOGNISED COLOURS</b>	<b>Ruddy Sorrel Blue Fawn</b>	<b>Black Silver Sorrel Silver Blue Silver Fawn Silver</b>
<b>NOTE:</b>	<b>No evidence of sex linked red permitted.</b>	

### SCALE OF POINTS

<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Head, incl. Muzzle, Skull, Ears, &amp; Eyes (shape, set &amp; colour)</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Body, incl. Torso, Legs, Feet &amp; Tail</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Coat – Colour &amp; Texture</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Coat - Ticking</b>	<b>20</b>

**Allowable Outcrosses: None.**

**RUDDY**

<b>Coat</b>	Rich golden brown, ticked with black or dark brown, with apricot-brown undercoat.
<b>Belly &amp; Inside of Legs</b>	Ruddy orange or rich apricot.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Brick Red.
<b>Pads</b>	Black or brown, with black between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

**SORREL (CINNAMON)**

<b>Coat</b>	Rich copper-red, distinctly ticked with chocolate brown, with apricot undercoat.
<b>Belly &amp; Inside of Legs</b>	Clear apricot.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Rose pink.
<b>Pads</b>	Pink, with chocolate brown between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

**BLUE**

<b>Coat</b>	Soft blue, ticked with deeper blue, with pale cream or oatmeal undercoat.
<b>Belly &amp; Inside of Legs</b>	Oatmeal.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Dark pink.
<b>Pads</b>	Mauve-blue, with deep blue between the toes, and extending up the back of the hind legs.

**FAWN**

<b>Coat</b>	Warm fawn with powdered effect, ticked with a deeper shade of the same colour, with pale fawn undercoat.
<b>Belly &amp; Inside of Legs</b>	Clear pale fawn.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Pink or pinkish-tan.
<b>Pads</b>	Pink or pinkish-tan, with a deeper shade of fawn between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

## **SILVER ABYSSINIANS**

In all silver varieties, the undercoat is to be white, with ticking appropriate to the particular variety. The combination of silvery white undercoat and appropriately coloured ticking will give an overall appearance as described below. **Any yellow pigmentation anywhere on the body is undesirable, and is considered a fault.**

### **BLACK SILVER**

<b>Coat</b>	Clear silver, ticked with black.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Brick red.
<b>Pads</b>	Black, with black between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

### **SORREL (CINNAMON) SILVER**

<b>Coat</b>	Clear silver, ticked with warm chocolate brown.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Pink.
<b>Pads</b>	Pink, with copper red between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

### **BLUE SILVER**

<b>Coat</b>	Clear silver, ticked with blue.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Dark pink.
<b>Pads</b>	Mauvish-blue, with blue between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.

### **FAWN SILVER**

<b>Coat</b>	Clear silver, ticked with warm fawn with powdered effect.
<b>Nose Leather</b>	Pink or pinkish-tan.
<b>Pads</b>	Pink or pinkish-tan, with a deeper shade of fawn between the toes and extending up the back of the hind legs.