

ABYSSINIAN [ABY] (Standard Source: FIFe 1987)

General

The Abyssinian is a well-balanced cat, with all elements in proportion. It is eager and active, and shows a lively interest in its surroundings.

- Head** Wedge-shaped, of medium proportions, wide at the top; the contours are soft and graceful. In profile the head shows a soft curve, with neither a stop nor a straight nose. Nose medium long. Chin firm and well developed; muzzle not sharply pointed. A shallow indentation forming the muzzle is desirable. Neck slender.
- Ears:** Relatively large, set well apart and pricked, broad and cupped at the base. Set as though listening. They are slightly rounded at the tips with a thumb mark; tufts at the tips are desirable.
- Eyes:** Set wide apart, large, brilliant and expressive; almond in shape and outlined with dark colour.
- Body:** Medium build, firm, lithe, hard and muscular; body of medium length.
- Legs and Feet:** Legs fine and long, in proportion to the body; feet small and oval. Gives the impression of standing on tiptoe.
- Tail:** Fairly long and tapering, broad at base.
- Coat:** Fine, but resilient to the touch, with a lustrous sheen. Medium short; but long enough to accommodate two or three bands of ticking on each hair with dark tips.

For colours and patterns recognised refer to descriptions below.

- Remarks:** A bump on the nose is undesirable.
- Faults:** Small or pointed ears. Round eyes. Cobby appearance. Too deep a nose break. Muzzle pinch.

Withhold

Challenge: Siamese type. Round head. Whip tail.

Disqualify: ~

SCALE OF POINTS

Head:	<i>including ears</i>	15 points
Ears:		~ points
Eyes:		10 points
Body:	<i>including tail and legs</i>	20 points
Legs and Feet:		~ points
Tail:		~ points
Coat:	<i>texture</i>	10 points
Colour:	<i>including body (25) ticking (15)</i>	40 points
Condition:		5 points

100 points

COLOURS AND PATTERNS RECOGNISED

General Description

Eye Colour: Amber, green or yellow; pure, intense colour.

Coat Colour: Only as listed below.

Coat Pattern:

Ticked: Base colour, with head, neck, back and extremities showing pronounced ticking. Ticking consists of 2 or 3 bands of colour on each hair ending with dark tip. Colour on stomach and inside of legs to harmonise with base colour. Any shading along the spine line should be of a shade matching the ticking. Soles of hind feet and tip of tail in solid colour.

Silver Ticked:

As for Ticked except: Base colour is pure silver-white for all recognised colours.

Remarks: ~

Faults: Unclear eye colour. Ghost marking on legs, stomach and chest. Too much marking on face. Absence of outline around eyes. Silvers: Any rufism/tarnishing in silver areas. Distinct rufous patches of brown or cream.

Withhold

Challenge: White locket. White extending onto the neck. Unbroken necklace. Grey or light undercoat. Lack of ticking, bars on the forelegs, marks on the stomach.

Disqualify: ~

TAWNY ABYSSINIAN (*ABY n*)

Coat: Warm brown ticked with black. Base colour deep orange. Stomach and inside of legs deep orange to deep apricot. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are black.

Nose Leather: Brick red, outlined with black.

Paw Pads: Black.

BLUE ABYSSINIAN (*ABY a*)

Coat: Warm blue-grey with dark steel blue-grey ticking. Base colour pale cream or beige. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are dark steel blue-grey.

Nose Leather: Blue-grey or brick red outlined with blue-grey.

Paw Pads: Blue-grey.

CINNAMON ABYSSINIAN (*ABY o*)

Coat: Copper red with chocolate red-brown ticking. Base colour deep apricot. Stomach and inside of legs deep apricot. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are red-brown.

Nose Leather: Pink, outlined with brick red.

Paw Pads: Pink.

FAWN ABYSSINIAN (*ABY p*)

Coat: Dull beige ticked with deep warm cream. Base colour pale cream. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are deep warm cream.

Nose Leather: Pink, or pink outlined with old rose.

Paw Pads: Pink

BLACK SILVER ABYSSINIAN (*ABY ns*)

Coat: Base colour pure silver-white, ticked with black. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are black.

Nose Leather: Brick red outlined with black.

Paw Pads: Black

BLUE SILVER ABYSSINIAN (*ABY as*)

Coat: Base colour pure silver-white, ticked with dark steel blue-grey. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are dark steel blue-grey.

Nose Leather: Blue-grey or brick red outlined with blue-grey.

Paw Pads: Blue-grey.

CINNAMON SILVER ABYSSINIAN (*ABY os*)

Coat: Base colour pure silver-white, ticked with red-brown. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are red-brown.

Nose Leather: Pink outlined with brick red.

Paw Pads: Cinnamon to chocolate brown.

FAWN SILVER ABYSSINIAN (*ABY ps*)

Coat: Base colour pure silver-white, ticked with deep warm cream. Tip of tail and soles of hind feet are deep cream.

Nose Leather: Pink outlined with old rose (deep pink).

Paw Pads: Pink

BREEDERS NOTES

Allowable outcross: Somali