BREED CODE: OCI - OCICAT

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The Ocicat is a medium to medium-large well-spotted agouti cat of moderate type. It displays the look of an athletic animal; well muscled and solid, graceful and lithe, yet with a fullness of body and chest. It is alert to its surroundings and shows great vitality. The Ocicat is found in many colours with darker spots appearing on a lighter background. Each hair (except on the tip of the tail) has several bands of colour. It is where these bands fall together that a thumbprint shaped spot is formed. This powerful, athletic, yet graceful spotted cat is particularly noted for its 'wild' appearance. Ocicats may also exhibit a classic tabby pattern; these are registered as OCI F. In these cats, the bands of colour fall together to form the characteristic classic pattern on a lighter background.

Head

The skull is a modified wedge showing a slight curve from muzzle to cheek, with a visible, but gentle, rise from the bridge of the nose to the brow. The muzzle is broad and well defined with a suggestion of squareness and in profile shows good length. The chin is strong and the jaw firm with a proper bite. The moderate whisker pinch is not too severe. The head is carried gracefully on an arching neck. An allowance is made for jowls on mature males.

Ears

Alert, moderately large, and set so as to corner the upper, outside dimensions of the head. If an imaginary horizontal line is drawn across the brow, the ears should be set at a 45 degree angle, i.e. neither too high nor too low. When they occur, ear tufts extending vertically from the tips of the ears are a bonus.

Eyes

Large, almond shaped, and angling slightly upwards toward the ears with more than the length of an eye between the eyes.

Size

Medium to medium-large, although females are generally smaller than males. This cat may also have a surprising weight for its size.

Torso

Solid, rather long-bodied, with depth and fullness but never coarse. Substantial bone and muscle development, yet with an athletic appearance. There should be some depth of chest with ribs slightly sprung, the back is level to slightly higher in the rear, and the flank reasonably level. Preference is given to the athletic, powerful and lithe, and objection taken to the bulky or coarse.

Legs & Feet

Legs should be of good substance and well-muscled, medium-long, powerful and in good proportion to the body. Feet should be oval and compact with five toes in front and four in back, with size in proportion to legs.

Tail Fairly long, medium-slim with only a slight taper and with a dark tip.

Coat Texture Short, smooth and satiny in texture with a lustrous sheen. Tight,

close lying and sleek, yet long enough to accommodate the necessary bands of colour. There should be no suggestion of

woolliness.

Ticking All hairs except the tip of the tail are banded. Within the markings,

hairs are tipped with a darker colour, while hairs in the ground colour

are tipped with a lighter colour.

Coat Colour All colours should be clear and pleasing. The lightest colour is

usually found on the face around the eyes, and on the chin and lower

jaw. The darkest colour is found on the tip of the tail. Contrast is

scored separately.

Contrast Distinctive markings should be clearly seen from any orientation.

Those on the face, legs and tail may be darker than those on the torso. Ground colour may be darker on the saddle and lighter on the underside, chin and lower jaw. Penalties should be given if the pattern is faint or blurred, though it must be remembered that pale

colours will show less contrast than darker ones.

Eye Colour All eye colours except blue are allowed. There is no correspondence

between eye colour and coat colour. Depth of colour is preferred.

SPOTTED PATTERN

There is an intricate tabby 'M' on the forehead, with markings extending up over the head between the ears and breaking into small spots on the lower neck and shoulders. Mascara markings are found around the eyes and on cheeks. Rows of round spots run along the spine from shoulder blades to tail. The tail has horizontal brush strokes down the top, ideally alternating with spots, and a dark tip. Spots are scattered across the shoulders and hindquarters, extending as far as possible down the legs. There are broken bracelets on the lower legs and broken necklaces at the throat – the more broken the better. Large well-scattered thumbprint-shaped spots appear on the sides of the torso, with a subtle suggestion of a classic tabby pattern – a spot circled by spots in place of the bull's eye. The belly is also well spotted. The eyes are rimmed with the darkest colour and surrounded by the lightest colour. Penalties should be given for elongated spots following a mackerel pattern.

CLASSIC PATTERN

All markings to be clearly defined and dense. On the forehead there should be the letter 'M' giving the impression of a frown. There should be an unbroken line running from the outer corner of each eye, and pencilling on the cheeks. The edges of the ears should be the same colour as the markings with a central patch of ground colour resembling a

thumbprint. A series of lines run from above the 'M' markings over the top of the head extending to the shoulder markings, which should be shaped like a butterfly seen from above. Both upper and lower "wings" should be clearly defined in outline with the central areas broken by small areas of ground colour. On the back there should be an unbroken line running down the spine from the butterfly to the tail, with a stripe on either side of this running parallel to it. The stripes should be separate from each other by stripes of ground colour. On each flank there should be an 'oyster-shaped' patch surrounded by one or more unbroken rings. Both sides of the cat should have symmetrical identical markings. On the neck and upper chest unbroken necklaces are preferred, but broken necklaces shall not count against an otherwise outstanding exhibit. The denser concentration of colour should extend from the feet up the back of the leg to the hock joint. The legs should be barred evenly with bracelets going down from the body to the toes, which are spotted. The tail should have complete rings, as numerous as possible with a solid tip of darker colour. The abdominal region should be spotted.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head			
	Skull		5
	Muzzle		10
	Ears		5
	Eyes		5
Body	Size		5
	Torso		10
	Legs & Feet		5
	Tail		5
Coat	& Colour Texture		5
	Coat Colour		5
	Contrast		10
	Eye Colour		5
Patte	rn		25
		TOTAL	100

Withhold Challenge Certificate or first place in kitten classes for:

- 1. White locket or spotting, or white anywhere other than around eyes, nostrils, chin, and upper throat (except white agouti ground in silvered colours).
- 2. Kinked or otherwise deformed tail.
- 3. Blue eyes.
- 4. Incorrect number of toes

Due to the spotted or classic 'patched tabby' (tortie) pattern (which results from the sex-linked "O" gene), no reds, creams, or torbies are allowed. Very rufous cinnamons and fawns may resemble red or cream, but never produce female torbies.

COLOUR CHARTS

NOTE: Due to the variation of shades in the chocolate range, and because of the presence and influence of cinnamon on the incomplete dominance of chocolate, more latitude for colour should be allowed. Judges should be reminded that colour in the Ocicat Standard is only worth 5 points. Therefore greater emphasis should be placed on the contrast between the base colour and the markings.

SPOTTED

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather	Pads
OCI	Tawny (Brown Tabby)	Black or dark brown spotting on a ruddy or bronze agouti ground.	Brick red rimmed with black.	Black or seal.
OCI A	Blue	Blue spotting on pale blue or cream/buff agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark blue.	Mauve Blue
OCI B	Chocolate	Chocolate spotting on a warm ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with chocolate	Chocolate-pink
OCI B/1	Cinnamon	Cinnamon spotting on a warm ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with cinnamon.	Pink or rose.
OCI C	Lavender	Lavender spotting on a pale buff or ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark lavender.	Lavender-pink
OCI C/1	Fawn	Fawn spotting on a pale ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with fawn.	Pink.

CLASSIC

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather	Pads
OCI F	Tawny (Brown Tabby)	Black or dark brown butterfly pattern on a ruddy or bronze agouti ground.	Brick red rimmed with black.	Black or seal.
OCI F/A	Blue	Blue butterfly pattern on pale blue or cream/buff agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark blue	Mauve Blue
OCI F/B	Chocolate	Chocolate butterfly pattern on warm ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with chocolate.	Chocolate-Pink
OCI FB/1	Cinnamon	Cinnamon butterfly pattern on a warm ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with cinnamon.	Pink or rose.
OCI F/C	Lavender	Lavender butterfly pattern on a pale buff or ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark lavender.	Lavender-pink
OCI FC/1	Fawn	Fawn butterfly pattern on a pale ivory agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with fawn.	Pink.

SILVER SPOTTED

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather	Pads
OCI s	Black Silver	Black spotting on a pale silver/white agouti ground.	Brick red rimmed with black.	Black.
OCI s/A	Blue Silver	Blue spotting on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark blue.	Mauve Blue
OCI s/B	Chocolate Silver	Chocolate spotting on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with chocolate.	Chocolate-pink.
OCI sB/1	Cinnamon Silver	Cinnamon spotting on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with cinnamon.	Pink or rose.
OCI s/C	Lavender Silver	Lavender spotting on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark lavender.	Lavender-pink
OCI sC/1	Fawn Silver	Fawn spotting on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with fawn.	Pink.

SILVER CLASSIC

Code	Colour	Coat Colour	Nose Leather	Pads
OCI s/F	Silver	Black butterfly pattern on a pale silver/white agouti ground.	Brick red rimmed with black.	Black.
OCI s/FA	Blue Silver	Blue butterfly pattern on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark blue	Mauve Blue.
OCI s/FB	Chocolate Silver	Chocolate butterfly pattern on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with chocolate.	Chocolate-pink.
OCI sFB/1	Cinnamon Silver	Cinnamon butterfly pattern on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with cinnamon.	Pink or rose.
OCI s/FC	Lavender Silver	Lavender butterfly pattern on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with dark lavender.	Lavender-pink
OCI sFC/1	Fawn Silver	Fawn butterfly pattern on a white agouti ground.	Pink rimmed with fawn.	Pink.