

BREED CODE: SOM – SOMALI

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The overall impression of the ideal Somali would be a colourful cat with a distinctly ticked coat, medium in size and regal in appearance. The Somali 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.

- Head:** 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.
- Muzzle:** A firm chin not sharply pointed or square, should be neither receding nor protruding. Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males.
- Ears:** Alert, comparatively large and moderately pointed; broad and cupped at the base, set wide apart, and preferably tufted.
- Eyes:** Almond shaped, large brilliant and expressive. Eyes accentuated by dark lid skin, encircled by light-coloured area. **Colour:** Gold, Hazel or Green. There is no relationship between eye colour and coat colour. Deeper shades preferred.
- Body:** Medium long, lithe and graceful, but showing well developed muscular strength without coarseness. Somali 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.
- Legs and Feet:** Proportionately slim, fine-boned. The Somali stands well off the ground, giving the impression of being on tip toe. Paws small, oval and compact.
- Tail:** Full brush, broad at base, and slightly tapering. Length in balance with torso.
- Coat:** Texture soft to the touch, extremely fine and double coated. The denser the coat the better. Medium length coat, except over the shoulders where a shorter length is permitted. Preference to be given to a cat with ruff and breeches, giving a full-coated appearance to the cat.
- Colour:** All recognised Abyssinian colours are allowed and Somalis should conform to those individual standards (but see Note below.)
- Necklace:** If present, must be broken.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head	Muzzle	6	
	Skull	6	
	Ears	7	
	Eye Shape	6	25
Body	Torso	15	
	Legs & Feet	10	
	Tail	5	30
Coat	Texture		10
Colour	Colour	15	
	Ticking	15	
	Eye Colour	5	35
	Total		<u>100</u>

Undesirable

Off-colour pads. Long narrow head, short round head. Barring on legs, rings on tail. Coldness or grey tone in the coat, with allowances made for around the elbows.

Withhold Challenge Certificate or First Place in Kitten Classes for:

1. White locket, or white anywhere other than nostrils, chin and upper throat area.
2. Unbroken necklace.
3. Grey undercoat close to skin extending throughout a major portion of the body.
4. Kinked or abnormal tail.

NOTE: The Somali is extremely slow to show mature ticking, and allowance should be made for young cats. It should be noted that ticking is not so apparent in Somali length coats in comparison with ticking in Abyssinians. Hair tips to be darkest with undercoat clear to the roots. Any spinal shading and tip of tail to be the same colour as the ticking, with belly and Inside of legs harmonising with the main body colour