# **OCICAT**

The Ocicat is a large, well-spotted cat. He displays the look of an athletic and feral animal. They are well muscled, solid, graceful and lithe, yet possess a fullness of body and chest. Alert to their surroundings and show great vitality.

## I – BODY/CONFORMATION (30)

(20) BODY - The body size is large; although, generally, females are smaller than males. Surprisingly heavy for their size. The torso is solid, rather long with depth and fullness but it never appears coarse. There is substantial bone and muscle development, thus giving an athletic appearance. The ribs appear slightly sprung, thus giving the impression of depth of chest. The back is level, but rises slightly forward in the rear. Preference in this trait is given to the cat which appears athletic, powerful and lithe.

(5) LEGS & FEET - The legs should be of good substance and well muscled. The legs are medium-long, powerful and are in good proportion with the rest of the body. The feet should be oval and compact and be in good proportion with the legs.

(5) TAIL - The tail is fairly long but medium-slim with only a slight taper at the tip. The tip of the tail is dark.

## II - HEAD (25)

(10) HEAD - The skull is medium wedge which displays a slight curve from muzzle to each cheek. The head should be in pleasing proportion with the cat's body and should be carried gracefully on an arching neck. Allowance should be made for jowls in mature males.

(<u>5</u>) <u>MUZZLE</u> - The muzzle is well defined with a suggestion of squareness. In profile, the muzzle shows good length, a strong chin and there is no suggestion of snippiness. The jaw should be firm with a proper bite.

(5) EARS - Ears are alert, moderately large and set so as to corner the upper, outside dimensions of the face. Possible ear tufts.

(5) EYES - The eyes are large, almond shape and angle slightly upwards toward the ears. There is more than the length of one eye between the eyes.

### III – COAT/LENGTH (5)

The coat is fine in texture with a lustrous sheen. It is close-lying and sleek, yet long enough to accommodate the necessary (agouti) bands of colour. There should be no suggestion of woolliness or excessive coat length.

### **IV – COLOUR (35)**

(5) COLOUR & TICKING - All colours should be clear and pleasing. The lightest colour is found usually on the face round the eyes, on the chin, and on the lower jaw. The darkest colour is found on the tip of the tail. Full body ticking, except tail.

(10) CONTRAST - Distinctive markings should be clearly seen from any orientation. Markings on the face, legs and tail may be darker than those on the torso. The ground colour may be darker on the saddle and lighter on the undersides, chin and lower jaw of the cat. It must

be remembered that pale colours will show less contrast than darker colours. Spotting must always be clear and distinct.

(15) PATTERN - There is an intricate tabby "M" shape on the forehead. Markings extend up and over the head between the ears and break into small spots on the lower neck and shoulders. Mascara markings are found around the eyes and on the cheeks. Rows of round spots run along the spine from the shoulder blades to the tail. The tail has horizontal brush strokes down the tip which, ideally, alternate with spots and end in a dark tip. Spots are scattered across the shoulders and hindquarters. These spots extend as far as possible down the legs. There are broken bracelets on the lower legs and broken necklaces in the throat region - the more broken, the better. There is a subtle suggestion of a Classic Tabby pattern. The belly is well spotted too. The eyes are rimmed with the darkest coat colour and they are surrounded by the lightest coat colour. Spots must not elongate as if following a Mackerel Tabby pattern.

(5) EYE COLOUR - All eye colours except blue are allowed. There is no correspondence between eye colour and coat colour. Depth, evenness and brilliance of colours are preferred.

## IV - CONDITION & BALANCE (5)

The ideal Ocicat should be large, well muscled, solid, graceful and lithe.

OBJECTIONS	DEDUCT
Woolly or long coat	1-3
Bulky or coarse body	2-5
Faint or blurred spotting	2-5
Elongated spots in a mackerel pattern	3-7

#### WITHHOLDS

Blue eyes

White lockets or spotting or white anywhere other than around the eyes, nostrils, chin and upper throat regions (except white agouti ground colour in colours containing silver).

Cats resulting from the sex-link « O » gene- no Reds, Creams, Patched or Tortoiseshell are allowed. Very rufus Cinnamons or Fawns may resemble Red or Cream but these colours never produce female Tortoiseshell or Patched.

All grounds for withholding awards as listed in the General Preface.

### **RECOGNIZED COLOURS**

Refer to Colours and Patterns appendix for complete list.

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**BREED ORIGIN:** Hybrid

**REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:** F2 Allowed

**SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:** F2 allowed

ALLOWED ANCESTRY: Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese

**ALLOWED MATINGS:** Ocicat, Abyssinian, Siamese