

SOMALI



Breed Standard

LONGHAIRS AND SHORTHAIRES ARE JUDGED AS SEPARATE BREEDS, SHORTHAIRES ARE A CONSTITUTANT CROSSING. JUDGES ARE TO USE THE ABYSSINIAN STANDARD WHEN JUDGING SHORTHAIRED SOMALIS, WHILE MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR A SLIGHTLY DENSER AND LONGER COAT.

The overall impression of the ideal Somali is that of a longhaired Abyssinian. The Somali is medium in size and shows firm development. It is regal in appearance displaying a lively interest in all surroundings. Although an active cat, it is gentle and amenable to handle.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (25)

(15) BODY – The conformation projects a balance between American and Oriental types. The rib cage is rounded. The back is slightly arched when standing. The belly appears level without tuck-up.

(4) LEGS – The length of the legs is in proportion with the body length.

(3) FEET – Neat, compact, oval and in proportion with the overall size of the cat.

(5) TAIL – When measured over the back, the tail reaches the shoulder blades. It is wide at the base and tapering slightly towards the tip. It has a full brush.

II – HEAD TYPE (25)

(15) HEAD – FRONT VIEW – The head is a modified wedge with rounded contours and no flat planes. The skull is round. The muzzle is not sharply pointed and there is no evidence of a whisker pinch. PRO-FILE – The transition between forehead, brow and muzzle is a gentle curve. The nose has no evidence of a sharp break. The chin is strong.

(5) EARS – The large, moderately pointed, IDEALLY WITH TUFTS AT THE TIP, broad and cupped at the base, arched forward set as though listening. The inner ear is furnished and lighter in colour.

(5) EYES – Almond shaped, large, brilliant and expressive.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (10)

(5) TEXTURE – Very soft to the touch. It is extremely fine textured and double coated. The more dense the coat, the better.

(5) LENGTH – Medium in length except over the shoulder region where a shorter coat is permitted. Preference in this trait is to be given to cats with breeches and ruff which give the cat the appearance of a full coat.

IV – COLOUR (35)

ALLOWANCE (UP TO EIGHT MONTHS) FOR LIGHT LEG BARS, LIGHT NECKLACES, SHOULDER MARKINGS & DARK ROOTS.

(15) COLOUR – The base of the coat is clear, even colour without grey or black rooting (Ruddy) or ashiness (Sorrel). When the silver pattern (i) is present, the lighter colour between the bands of the base colour is replaced by the most silvery shade possible. Reddish shadows (rufism) are not desired, but should not be heavily penalized especially if they are along the spine. Colour of ears, nose leather, paw pads and underside as outlined in the Colour Description.

(5) FACIAL MARKINGS – Symmetrical and projecting a feral look. The eyes are accentuated by darker lid skins, encircled by light coloured

area. An “M” or darker colour appears vertically on the forehead. There is a short stroke at the corner of the each eye. The upper throat, lips, nostrils, and chin are of lighter in colour, off-white preferred to white.

(15) TICKING – Even, with four or six bands of alternating light and dark color. The extreme outer tip is the darkest with the lighter band next to the skin. At the stomach, the coat is unticked. On the extremities, covered by shorter hair, are two bands of colour. There is no patching or irregularity in ticking evident on the coat except a dark ticked line running from the skull to the base of the tail.

NOTE: Somalis are extremely slow in showing mature ticking, and evenness and depth of coat color. Allowance should be made for kittens and young adults. As the ticking develops, regions of gray next to the skin are not to be penalized. In immature cats, color will be richest in the spinal, chest and belly regions.

(5) EYE COLOUR – Rich shade of gold, green, hazel or copper. The more richness, depth of color, the better.

V – CONDITION & BALANCE (5)

The breed is to display firm muscular development.

OBJECTIONS

	DEDUCT
Receding chin line	1-3
Heavy legs bars	1-5
Heavy broken necklace	1-5
Incorrect nose leather	1-3
Off-white or cream extending low into neck	1-3
Pale brown paw pads on a Ruddy	1-4
Dark root on a mature cat	1-5
Coarse, thin, wooly coat	1-3
Lack of facial markings.	1-3
Mottling or speckling on unticked areas	1-3
In silvers, frank presence of rufism, yellowish undercoat instead of being pure white	1-5

WITHHOLDS

Complete necklaces
White patches of hair other than under the chin or mouth
incorrect paw pad colour
Black hair on a Sorrel
Reverse ticking
Rings on a tail
All grounds for withholdings awards listed in the General Preface

RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Ruddy, Sorrel (Cinnamon), Blue, Fawn

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BREED ORIGIN: Mutation

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS: F1 allowed, No AOV allowed

SHOWING REQUIREMENTS: F1 allowed, No AOV allowed

ALLOWED ANCESTRY: Somali (LH & SH), Abyssinian, No AOV allowed.

ALLOWED MATINGS: Somali (LH & SH) NO AOV allowed, Abyssinian, NO AOV allowed.

EFFECTIVE : 2022-12-10

ADOPTED BY ABYSSINIAN AND SOMALI CAT CLUB OF CANADA BY REFERENDUM 2022-11-20

SOMALI