

JAPANESE BOBTAIL

GENERAL STANDARD

The Japanese Bobtail is a medium-sized cat with long, clean lines, resulting from straight, slender boning and firm muscle tone. The unique shape and set of the eyes, combined with high cheek bones and a long, parallel nose lend a Japanese cast to the face, especially in profile, that is unlike any other oriental breed. The short tail bends and kinks, with the covering hair fanning out to cover the underlying bones and produce the distinctive pom-pom, fan or bunny-tail appearance. The male is generally larger than the female.

HEAD: Although the head appears long and finely chiselled, its shape is a gently curving equilateral triangle from the outer bases of the ears, across the top of the face and down the chin. Attention should be given to the high cheekbones. Allowance should be made for jowls in stud males.

EARS: Are large, set wide apart, tall and expressive. Outer ears margins form two vertical, parallel lines set at right angles to the top line of the face. When held straight, they give the impression of being tilted forward. Ears should be penalised if flared or cradle-set (cupped).

EYES: Should be large and oval, defined from below by markedly high cheekbones. In profile, the eyes can be seen to have a distinct, slanted set and do not protrude.

NOSE: Is long and well-defined by two parallel lines from tip to brow and displays a gentle dip at, or just below, eye level when viewed in profile.

CHEEKS: Have high cheekbones.

JAWS: Are gently rounded, neither pointed nor blunt, with a noticeable whisker break.

CHIN: Firm. In profile, of good depth and in a vertical line with the tip of the nose.

NECK: Long and slender.

BODY: Should be long, straight and slender, neither fragile nor heavy-boned. Medium in size, with good muscle tone. It should be neither tubular nor cobby.

LEGS: Should be long, slender and medium-boned. The back legs are noticeably longer than the front ones, causing the hindquarters to be higher than the shoulders. When the hind legs are relaxed, the back appears level.

PAWS: Oval.

TAIL: Is short, not extending more than three inches (7.5 cm) from the body. Vertebrae kinked and/or fused along the entire length of the tail. The last bone may be gently felt to be pointed, not blunt. The hair of the tail fans out against the direction of the underlying bones, giving the appearance of a pom-pom, fan or bunny-tail, depending on the configuration of the bone structure.

NOTE: *The tail is to be examined gently, with no pulling, twisting or attempts to straighten.*

TEMPERAMENT: To be outgoing and friendly.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head and neck	10	
Ears	5	
Eyes	5	20
Body	15	
Legs	10	
Paws	5	
Tail	20	50
Coat colour/pattern	10	
Coat length/texture	10	
Condition/balance	10	30
TOTAL		100

FAULTS / PENALTIES

REFER TO GENERAL LIST OF FAULTS FOR ALL BREEDS, PLUS:

WITHHOLD:

- Absence of tail.
- Tail extending too far beyond the body or for a delayed bob
- i.e. kinked portion of tail preceded by an inch (2.5cm) or more of straight tail covered with flat, close-lying fur.
- Lockets or random spots of white in an otherwise solid coloured cat.
- White spots in an otherwise tortoiseshell or patched tabby cat.

COAT AND COLOUR

PATTERN: All colours and patterns are acceptable, except for ticked tabby and pointed varieties. In keeping with the traditional Mi-Ke (pronounced mee-kay) Neko i.e. calico, of Japan, colours within the red/black/white spectrum are most often seen, as these will produce tri-coloured females when bred together. In all colours, preference is given to bold, dramatic markings and bright, vivid colours and strong contrasts, rather than specific amounts or proportions of any given colour. Nose and paw pad leather are to be appropriate to the indicative coat colour.

NOTE: *Calico is the patched pattern.*

COLOURS

WHITE: Pure glistening white.

BLACK: Dense, coal black, sound from roots to tip of fur. Shiny and free from any tinge of rust on tips.

RED: Deep, rich, clear, brilliant red, the deeper and more glowing in tone the better.

BLACK AND WHITE.

RED AND WHITE (INCLUDING TABBY).

MI-KE (TRICOLOUR): Black, red and white (red areas may have tabby striping or spotting).

TORTOISESHELL: Black, red and cream.

OTHER JAPANESE BOBTAIL COLOURS: Include the following categories and any other colour or pattern or combination thereof, except colouring showing evidence of hybridisation resulting in the colours chocolate, lavender, point-restricted (i.e. Siamese marking) or un-patterned agouti (i.e. Abyssinian colouring) or these combinations with white. Patterned categories denote and include any variety of tabby striping or spotting with or without areas of solid (unmarked) colour.

OTHER SOLID COLOURS: Blue or Cream.

TABBY COLOURS: Red Tabby, Brown Tabby, Blue Tabby, Cream Tabby or Silver Tabby.

PATCHED TABBY: Brown Patched Tabby, Blue Patched Tabby or Silver Patched Tabby.

OTHER PARTI-COLOURS: Blue-cream, other Bi-Colours, Blue and White or Cream and White.

TABBY AND WHITE: Brown Tabby and White, Blue Tabby and White, Cream Tabby and White or Silver Tabby and White.

PATCHED TABBY AND WHITE: Brown Patched Tabby and White, Blue Patched Tabby and White or Silver Patched Tabby and White.

PARTI-COLOUR AND WHITE: Tortoiseshell and White or Blue-Cream and White.

OTHER TRI-COLOURS:

Dilute Mi-Ke (Blue-Cream and White).

Patterned Mi-Ke (Spots of Brown Tabby and Red Tabby on White).

Dilute Patterned Mi-Ke (Spots of Blue Tabby and Cream Tabby on White).

COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE

COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE (SHORTHAIK): Is to be medium in length, neither short nor close-lying, nor long enough to display a ruff or pantaloons. A slight fringe on the belly and britches is allowed. It is fine and silky, without a noticeable undercoat.

COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE (LONGHAIR): Is medium-long to long. A frontal ruff is desirable. The coat may be shorter and close lying over the shoulders, gradually lengthening towards the rump, with noticeably longer hair on the tail and rear britches. Ear and toe tufts are desirable. The coat should lie so as to accent the lines of the body. It is soft and silky, with no noticeable undercoat in the mature adult.

EYE RIMS AND NOSE LEATHER: To be appropriate to the indicative coat colour.

PAW PADS: To be appropriate to the indicative coat colour.

EYE COLOUR: Green, gold and copper are acceptable in all coat colours. Blue and odd-eyes are acceptable in all the white and patched coat colours.

BREEDING NOTES

No allowable outcrosses.

Not recognized with the Himalayan or Abyssinian patterns.

Not allowable in chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn and apricot.