



Burmese

General Standard

The Burmese is an elegant, muscular cat of medium size, of distinctive foreign type, resembling neither Siamese nor British build. Ear set, eye shape and brow line combine to form the distinctive Burmese frown. It has a coat that looks and feels like satin. Males are generally larger than females. The Burmese is an outgoing, sociable cat, lively and alert.

Head	Slightly rounded on top, with good width between the ears, having wide cheekbones and tapering to a short, blunt wedge. The head is a balanced wedge and is not to be too short or rounded. A muzzle pinch is a bad fault.
Ears	Medium size, broad at the base with slightly rounded tips, set well apart. The outer line of the ear continues the shape of the upper part of the face, though this may be less obvious in mature males, who develop fullness of cheek. In profile, the ears have a slight forward tilt.
Eyes	Large and set well apart. The top line of the eyes is a straight line, which is slanted down toward the nose; the lower line being rounded. Either round or oriental eyes are a fault.
Nose	Moderately short and of even width. In profile, a distinct break is essential. A Roman nose or bump on the end of the nose are faults.
Cheeks	Well rounded, with good width when viewed front on.
Jaws	Wide at the hinge, strong and gently rounded.
Chin	In profile, of good depth and in a vertical line with the tip of the nose.
Neck	Of medium length and in proportion to the body.
Body	Of medium length and size, feeling hard and muscular and heavier than its appearance indicates. The chest is strong and rounded in profile. The back is straight from shoulder to rump, though the rump is a little higher.
Legs	Strong but not heavily boned and in proportion to the body. The hind legs are slightly longer than the forelegs.
Paws	Neat and oval.
Tail	Straight and of medium length, not heavy at the base, tapering only slightly to a rounded tip, without bone defect.
Condition	Well-muscled, with good weight and size.

Scale of Points

Head & Neck	20	
Ears	5	
Eye Shape & Set	10	35
Body	15	
Legs & Paws	5	
Tail	5	25
Coat Colour & Pattern	15	
Coat Texture & Length	10	
Eye Colour	10	35
Overall Condition	5	5
Total		100

Faults & Penalties

Refer to general list of faults for all breeds plus:

Penalise:

- Short, round head.
- A Roman nose or bump on the nose in adults.
- Flat skull.
- Flared ears.
- Incorrect eye shape.
- Green rim in eye colour.
- Heavy barring on kittens or barring other than on the legs of kittens.
- Roman nose or bump on the end of the nose in adults.

Withhold:

- Siamese or British type.
- Muzzle pinch.
- Barring in adults.
- A noticeable number of white hairs or a white patch in solid colours.
- Green, orange or copper eyes.
- Obvious lack of good health in body or coat condition.

Coat & Colour

Coat Length & Texture	Coat is short, fine, satin-like in texture and lying close to the body. The glossy coat is a distinctive feature of the Burmese and is indicative of good health.
Coat Colour	In all colours, the under-parts will be slightly lighter than the back. Only in kittens should any allowance be made for faint tabby barring on the legs. Overall, kittens are considerably lighter in colour than adults. Evenness of colour is desirable. The presence of a few white hairs may be overlooked in an otherwise excellent exhibit, but a noticeable number of white hairs or a white patch is a serious fault, as is any tabby barring in adults. Breeders should note that tabby markings in kittens are likely to remain into adulthood.
Eye Colour	Any shade of yellow, golden yellow preferred. The deeper the better.

Coat Colours

Solid Group

Brown (Genetic Black)

Coat Colour	In maturity, the adult is rich, warm, brown, shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. Apart from this and slightly darker ears, there should be no shading or marking of any kind. Very dark colouring bordering on black is incorrect.
Nose Leather	Rich brown.
Paw Pads	Brown.

Blue

Coat Colour	Soft, warm, blue-grey, slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. There should be a distinct silver sheen on the rounded areas such as the ears, face and feet.
Nose Leather	Blue.
Paw Pads	Blue.

Chocolate

Coat Colour	Overall is a warm, milk chocolate, slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. Evenness of colour is most desirable. Dark or cold tones are undesirable.
Nose Leather	Warm chocolate.
Paw Pads	Chocolate brown, with a pinkish tone allowable. Kittens have paler nose leather and paw pads.

Lilac

Coat Colour	Overall is a pale, pinkish, dove-grey, slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. There should be a distinct silver sheen on the rounded areas such as the ears, face and feet. Cold tones are undesirable.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink. Kittens have paler nose leather and paw pads.

Red

Coat Colour	Tangerine, slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. Slight markings may be found on the face. Small indeterminate markings elsewhere, except on the sides and belly, are permissible in an otherwise excellent specimen.
Nose Leather	Pink. Some freckling may be allowed.
Paw Pads	Pink.

Cream

Coat Colour	Rich cream, slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter shade on the under-parts. Slight markings may be found on the face. Small indeterminate markings elsewhere, except on the sides and belly, are permissible in an otherwise excellent specimen. There may be a powdering effect on the rounded areas such as the ears and face.
Nose Leather	Pink. Some freckling may be allowed.
Paw Pads	Pink.

Tortoiseshell Group

Colours are intermingled and/or patched and distribution of colour is immaterial. In dilutes, paler shades are preferred though all shades are allowed.

Brown Tortoiseshell

Coat Colour	Rich, warm brown and varying shades of red and/or cream intermingled and/or patched.
Nose Leather	Seal brown or pink, plain or blotched.
Paw Pads	Seal brown or pink, plain or blotched.

Blue Tortoiseshell

Coat Colour	Warm blue-grey and varying shades of cream intermingled and/or patched.
Nose Leather	Blue or pink, plain or blotched.
Paw Pads	Blue or pink, plain or blotched.

Chocolate Tortoiseshell

Coat Colour	Warm, milk chocolate, and varying shades of red and/or cream intermingled and/or patched.
Nose Leather	Chocolate or pink, plain or blotched.
Paw Pads	Chocolate or pink, plain or blotched.

Lilac Tortoiseshell

Coat Colour	Soft, warm, pinkish grey and varying shades of cream intermingled and/or patched.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink or pink, plain or blotched.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink or pink, plain or blotched.

Breeding Notes

Allowable Outcross

American Burmese as part of an approved experimental breeding programme.

4th Generation progeny from an approved Mandalay program and genetically tested c^bc^b may be put into the Burmese program.

As breeding partners for the Burmilla and Tonkinese breed in approved breeding programs.

Notes

12 November 2016 – Breeding Notes - Genetically proven Burmese from an approved Mandalay program can be included in a Burmese program.

30 November 2024 – Progeny registered as Burmese from a Mandalay program are eligible for breeding in Burmese programs and competing in the Burmese breed group at championship level

Standard Updates

March 2023 – Standard reformatted. This reformatted standard includes all previous updates and amendments.

For information on previous standard updates and amendments, please see the Register of Breed Standards Updates on the CCCA website or contact the CCCA Secretary.

19 November 2023 - “Foundation” section removed as this was not approved for inclusion in the reformatted standard.

30 November 2024 – Replace the breeding note of 19 November 2019 with a new breed note regarding Burmese from a Mandalay program.