



Tonkinese

General Standard

The Tonkinese cat was originally the result of a Siamese to Burmese mating. The ideal Tonkinese is intermediate in type, being neither cobby nor svelte. Medium sized, it is an alert active cat with good muscular development, heavier than it looks. Males are generally larger than females.

Head	Modified slightly rounded wedge, somewhat longer than it is wide, with high gently planed cheekbones. The muzzle is blunt, as long as it is wide. There is a slight whisker break, gently curved, following the line of the wedge. The profile also shows a gentle contour, from a strong chin to a straight nose with a slight dip below eye level, flowing into a convex curve to the forehead.
Ears	Alert, medium in size. Oval tips, broad at the base. Ears set as much on the sides as the top.
Eyes	Open almond shape. Slanted along the cheekbones toward the outer edge of the ear. Eyes are proportionate in size to the face.
Nose	Moderate and straight. In profile, it has a gentle curve.
Cheeks	High, gently planed cheekbones.
Jaws	Rounded, not pointed, pinched or square.
Chin	Firm. In profile, of good depth and in a vertical line with the tip of the nose.
Neck	Medium.
Body	Medium in length, demonstrating well developed muscular strength without coarseness. The Tonkinese conformation strikes a midpoint between the extremes of the long, svelte body types and the cobby, compact body types. Balance and proportion are more important than size alone. The abdomen should be taut, well muscled and firm.
Legs	Fairly slim, proportionate in length and bone to the body. Hind legs slightly longer than the front.
Paws	Neat and oval.
Tail	Proportionate in length to body. Gently tapering.

Scale of Points

Head	15	
Ears	5	
Eye Shape & Set	5	25
Body	15	
Tail	5	
Legs and paws	5	25
Coat: Body colour	15	
Point colour	10	
Texture	10	35
Eye Colour	10	10
Overall Condition	5	5
Total		100

Faults & Penalties

Refer to general list of faults for all breeds plus:

Penalise:

- Extreme ranginess or cobbiness.
- Definite nose break.
- Round eyes.

Withhold:

- Yellow eyes.
- Lack of contrast of colour.
- White locket or button.
- Palpable tail faults.

Coat

Coat	Medium short in length, close lying, fine, soft and silky, with a lustrous sheen.
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Colour

Mink	The mature specimen should be a rich, even, unmarked colour, shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter hue on the under parts. Allowance to be made for lighter body colour in younger cats. With the dilute colours in particular, development of full body colour may take up to 16 months. Cats do darken with age, but there must be a distinct contrast between body colour and points.
Point colour	Mask, ears, feet and tail all densely marked, but merging gently into body colour. Except in kittens, mask and ears should be connected by tracings.
Eye Colour	Aqua. A definite characteristic of the Tonkinese breed. Depth, clarity and brilliance of colour preferred.

Solid	Body colour in solid coloured Tonkinese may be a slightly lighter shade of the point colour, with very little contrast with points. There will be more contrast between points and body colour for the Champagne and Platinum solid than for the Natural and Blue Solids
Eye Colour	Green to gold.

Pointed	Body colour of pointed Tonkinese should be off-white, any shading relevant to the point colour; overall body colour should be in marked contrast to the points.
Eye Colour	Blue.

Coat Colours

Mink Pattern

Seal Mink

Coat Colour	Medium brown. Ruddy highlights acceptable.
Points	Dark brown.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone).

Blue Mink

Coat Colour	Soft blue grey with warm overtones.
Points	Slate blue, distinctly darker than body colour.
Nose Leather	Blue grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Blue grey (may have a rosy undertone).

Chocolate Mink

Coat Colour	Buff cream to beige. Reddish highlights acceptable.
Points	Medium brown.
Nose Leather	Pinkish brown (corresponding to intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Pinkish brown.

Cinnamon Mink

Coat Colour	Rich, reddish brown, with brighter shades preferred. Slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter hue on the under-parts. Evenness of colour is most desirable. Dark or cold tones are undesirable.
Points	Rich reddish brown with brighter shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Light tan to pink, toning with the points.
Paw Pads	Bright pink in kittens, maturing to very light cinnamon with pinkish undertones.

Lilac Mink

Coat Colour	Pale silvery grey with warm overtones. Not white or cream.
Points	Frosty grey, distinctly darker than the body colour.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink to lavender grey.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink.

Fawn Mink

Coat Colour	Pale, warm pinkish fawn, with paler shades preferred. Slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter hue on the under-parts. Evenness of colour is most desirable. Dark or cold tones are undesirable.
Points	Pale, warm pinkish fawn, with paler shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Fawn to pink toning with points.
Paw Pads	Bright pink in kittens, maturing to extremely pale grey with pinkish undertones.

Red Mink

Coat Colour	Cream to pale apricot; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring.
Points	Rich apricot, with brighter tones preferred; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring on the mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.
Remarks	Freckles may appear on the nose leather, eye rims, paw pads and ears and should not be penalised.

Cream Mink

Coat Colour	Pale, cool-toned cream; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring.
Points	Rich cream, with paler shades preferred; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring on mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.
Remarks	Freckles may appear on the nose leather, eye rims, paw pads and ears and should not be penalised.

Tortie Mink Pattern

The base colour should be Brown (Natural), Blue, Chocolate (Champagne), Lilac (Platinum), which is well-broken and free from tabby markings intermingled with varying shades of red or cream. Any large areas of red or cream may show some tabby markings. The distribution of colour is random and immaterial, though a blaze on the nose or solid colour on any of the legs or tail are acceptable. Ears are mottled. The base colour on the points should be darker than the base colour on the body, although the legs and feet may be paler than the other points.

Seal Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Medium brown, well-broken with varying shades of red.
Points	Dark brown, intermingled with varying shades of red.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone), pink or both.

Blue Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Soft blue-grey with warm undertones, well broken with varying shades of cream.
Points	Slate blue, distinctly darker than body colour with varying shades of cream.
Nose Leather	Blue-grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Blue-grey (may have a rosy undertone), pink or both.

Chocolate Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Buff-cream to beige (reddish highlights acceptable), well-broken with varying shades of red and/or cream.
Points	Medium-brown with varying shades of red and/or cream.
Nose Leather	Pinkish-brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Pinkish-brown, pink or both.

Cinnamon Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Bright shades of rich, reddish brown, red and/or cream. Slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter hue on the underparts. Evenness of colour is most desirable. Dark or cold tones are undesirable.
Points	Bright shades of rich, reddish brown, red and/or cream.
Nose Leather / Paw Pads	Plain or blotched in light tan and/or pink.

Lilac Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Pale silvery-grey with warm overtones (not white), well-broken with varying shades of cream.
Points	Frosty grey, distinctly darker than the body colour with varying shades of cream.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink to lavender grey, pink or both.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink, pink or both.

Fawn Tortie Mink

Coat Colour	Pale pinkish fawn and cream. Paler shades are preferred. Slightly darker on the ears and back and shading almost imperceptibly to a slightly lighter hue on the underparts. Evenness of colour is most desirable. Dark or cold tones are undesirable.
Points	Pale pinkish fawn and cream.
Nose Leather / Paw Pads	Plain or blotched in fawn and/or pink.

Solid Pattern

Brown Solid

Coat Colour	Sable brown.
Points	Dark brown.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone).

Blue Solid

Coat Colour	Slate blue with warm overtones.
Points	Slate blue.
Nose Leather	Blue-grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Blue-grey (may have a rosy undertone).

Chocolate Solid

Coat Colour	Milk chocolate.
Points	Warm milk chocolate.
Nose Leather	Cinnamon brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Cinnamon-pink to cinnamon-brown.

Cinnamon Solid

Coat Colour	Rich, reddish brown, with brighter shades preferred.
Points	Rich, reddish brown, with brighter shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Light tan to pink.
Paw Pads	Bright pink in kittens, maturing to very light cinnamon with pinkish undertones.

Lilac Solid

Coat Colour	Dove grey.
Points	Frosty grey
Nose Leather	Lavender-pink to lavender-grey.

Fawn Solid

Coat Colour	Pale, warm pinkish fawn, with paler shades preferred.
Points	Pale, warm pinkish fawn, with paler shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Fawn to pink.
Paw Pads	Bright pink in kittens, maturing to extremely pale grey with pinkish undertones.

Red Solid

Coat Colour	Warm apricot, paler than the points; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring.
Points	Rich apricot, with brighter tones preferred; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring on the mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.
Remarks	Freckles may appear on the nose leather, eye rims, paw pads and ears and should not be penalised.

Cream Solid

Coat Colour	Warm, cool-toned cream; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring.
Points	Rich cream, with paler shades preferred; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring on mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.
Remarks	Freckles may appear on the nose leather, eye rims, paw pads and ears and should not be penalised.

Tortie Solid Pattern

The base colour should be Brown (Natural), Blue, Chocolate (Champagne), Lilac (Platinum), which is well-broken and free from tabby markings intermingled with varying shades of red or cream. Any large areas of red or cream may show some tabby markings. The distribution of colour on the points is random and immaterial, though a blaze up the nose or solid colour on any of the legs or tail are acceptable. Ears are mottled. The colour on the points and body should match in tone but may not merge evenly.

Brown Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Medium brown, well-broken with varying shades of red.
Points	Dark brown, intermingled with varying shades of red.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone), pink or both.

Blue Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Slate blue with warm overtones, well-broken, intermingled with varying shades of cream.
Points	Slate blue, distinctly darker than body colour with varying shades of cream.
Nose Leather	Blue-grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Blue-grey (may have a rosy undertone), pink or both.

Chocolate Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Milk chocolate, well-broken with varying shades of red.
Points	Warm milk chocolate with varying shades of red.
Nose Leather	Cinnamon brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Cinnamon-pink to cinnamon brown, pink or both.

Cinnamon Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Bright shades of rich, reddish brown, red and/or cream.
Points	Bright shades of rich, reddish brown, red and/or cream.
Nose Leather / Paw Pads	Plain or blotched in light tan and/or pink.

Lilac Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Dove grey, well-broken with varying shades of cream.
Points	Frosty grey, distinctly darker than the body colour with varying shades of cream.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink to lavender grey, pink or both.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink, pink or both.

Fawn Tortie Solid

Coat Colour	Pale pinkish fawn and cream.
Points	Pale pinkish fawn and cream.
Nose Leather / Paw pads	Plain or blotched in fawn and/or pink.

Pointed Pattern

Seal Point

Coat Colour	Fawn to cream.
Points	Dark brown.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone.)

Blue Point

Coat Colour	Slate blue with warm overtones.
Points	Slate blue.
Nose Leather	Blue-grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Blue-grey (may have a rosy undertone).

Chocolate Point

Coat Colour	Ivory with shading in same colour as points.
Points	Milk chocolate.
Nose Leather	Cinnamon brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Cinnamon-pink to cinnamon-brown.

Cinnamon Point

Coat Colour	Warm ivory. Shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.
Points	Rich, reddish brown, with brighter shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Light tan to pink, toning with the points.
Paw Pads	Light tan to pink, toning with the points.

Lilac Point

Coat Colour	Pearly white.
Points	Frosty grey
Nose Leather	Lavender-pink to lavender-grey. (Corresponding to the intensity of the point colour).
Paw Pads	Lavender-pink.

Fawn Point

Coat Colour	Very pale ivory. Shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.
Points	Pale, warm pinkish fawn, with paler shades preferred.
Nose Leather	Fawn to pink toning with points.
Paw Pads	Fawn to pink toning with points.

Red Point

Coat Colour	Milky-white; shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter tone.
Points	Rich apricot, with brighter tones preferred; whilst it is not desirable, allowances should be made for slight barring on the mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.

Cream Point

Coat Colour	Ivory: shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.
Points	Rich cream with paler shades preferred; whilst it is not desirable allowances should be made for slight barring on the mask, legs and tail.
Nose Leather	Pink.
Paw Pads	Pink.
Remarks	Freckles may appear on the nose leather, eye rims, paw pads and ears and should not be penalised.

Tortie Point

Colour is restricted to the points and comes in Brown (Natural), Blue, Chocolate (Champagne), Lilac (Platinum), which is well broken and free from tabby markings intermingled with varying shades of red or cream. Any large areas of red or cream may show some tabby markings. The distribution of colour on the points is random and immaterial, though a blaze up the nose or solid colour on any of the legs or tail are acceptable. Ears are mottled.

Seal Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Fawn to cream.
Points	Dark brown, with varying shades of red on points.
Nose Leather	Dark brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Medium to dark brown (may have a rosy undertone).

Blue Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Off-white with warm grey shading.
Points	Slate blue, distinctly darker than body colour with varying shades of cream on points.
Nose Leather	Blue-grey (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Blue-grey (may have a rosy undertone), pink or both.

Chocolate Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Ivory with shading in same colour as points.
Points	Milk chocolate with varying shades of red on points.
Nose Leather	Pinkish-brown (corresponding to the intensity of the point colour), pink or both.
Paw Pads	Pinkish-brown, pink or both.

Cinnamon Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Warm ivory. Shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.
Points	Bright shades of rich, reddish brown, red and/or cream
Nose Leather / Paw Pads	Plain or blotched in light tan and/or pink.

Lilac Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Pearly-white.
Points	Frosty grey, distinctly darker than the body colour with varying shades of cream on points.
Nose Leather	Lavender pink to lavender grey, pink or both.
Paw Pads	Lavender pink, pink or both.

Fawn Tortie Point

Coat Colour	Pale ivory. Shading, if any, is to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.
Points	Pale pinkish fawn and cream. Paler shades are preferred.
Nose Leather / Paw Pads	Plain or blotched in fawn and/or pink.

Breeding Notes

Allowable Outcross

European Burmese and Siamese in the four basic colours plus red, cream and tortie.

Notes

- AOC Tonkinese of good type may be registered as “for breeding.”
- Not permitted to be mated to bi-colour Siamese.

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 2024 - Removal of “Foundation” section as this was not approved for inclusion in the reformatted standard.

10 February 2024 – Add the colour standards for Cinnamon and Fawn.

10 February 2024 – Change some of the colour terminology for consistency.