

BREED BIRMAN

GENERAL A cat of mystery and legend, the Birman is a color pointed cat with long silky hair and four pure white feet. It is strongly built, elongated and stocky, neither oriental nor cobby. The distinctive head has strong jaws, firm chin and medium length Roman nose. There should be good width between the ears, which are medium in size. The blue, almost round eyes are set well apart, giving a sweet expression to the face.

HEAD	SHAPE	Skull strong, broad, and rounded, forms a blunt triangle with rounded contours. There is a slight flat spot just in front of each ear and a slight flat spot on the forehead in between the ears.
	EARS	Almost as wide at the base as they are tall. They should be open at the base, have a slightly rounded tip, and be medium in size, and placed moderately far apart with furnishings.
	EYES	Medium to large, moderately rounded, and set fairly wide apart. They are blue in color, the deeper the better.
	CHIN	Strong and well-developed, with the lower jaw forming a perpendicular line with the upper lip.
	MUZZLE	Medium length, with enough width to prevent a pinched look.
	NOSE	Medium in length and is roman in shape with nostrils set low.
	PROFILE	Sloped back with a slight transverse flat sport in the middle of the forehead just above the eye ridge, There is a change of direction between the forehead and the roman nose.

BODY

TORSO

The Birman is a full bodied, medium long, sturdy cat with a level back. The overall size is medium to large. The neck is strong and well-muscled, thicker on breeding males. In all respects, males are generally larger than females.

LEGS

Medium in length, heavily boned, well- muscled, and in good proportion to the body.

FEET

Large, broad and gently rounded.

TAIL

Medium length, with elegant shape and furnished plume-like

MUSCULATURE

Firm and Strong.

COAT COLOR PATTERN

LENGTH

Semi-long to long. Heavy ruff is desirable, especially in males, Fur can be slightly curly on the stomach, seasonal change should be considered when judge coat length.

TEXTURE

Silky.

PATTERN

The special features of the Birman cat are the white "gloves" and "laces". The white markings on all four paws are called gloves. In particular evenness and symmetry of the gloves are essential, both between the front paws and the hind paws. The white is absolutely pure; it may end at the carpus or at the joint. It is not permitted to extend to the legs. The gloves on the back paws must extend up the back of the hock, and are called laces in this area. Ideally, the laces end in a point or inverted "V" and extend 1/2 to 3/4 of the way up the hock. Lower or higher laces are acceptable, but should not go beyond the hock. Symmetry of the two laces is desirable.

COLOR VARIETIES

The Birman is a pointed cat with Siamese points and recognized in all pointed colours. The description of colours is listed in the general list of colours.

PENALIZE

White that does not run across the front paws in an even line.
Lack of white on all front toes.
Persian or Siamese type head.
Delicate bone structure.
Lack of laces on one or both back gloves.
White beyond the metacarpal (dew) pad.

DISQUALIFY

Lack of white gloves on any paw.
Kinked or abnormal tail.
Structural defects or abnormalities.
Crossed eyes.
Incorrect number of toes.
White on back legs beyond the hock.
White patches outside of the gloves and laces.
Eye color other than blue.

SCORE**Head**

35 points

Shape

5

Ears

5

Eyes

5

Chin

5

Muzzle

5

Nose

5

Profile

5

Body

25 points

Torso

5

Legs and feet

10

Boning Musculature

10

Coat/Color/Pattern

30 points

Texture

5

Pattern

10

Length

5

Color

10

Others

10 points

Condition

3

Grooming

2

Balance

2

Temperament

3

OUTCROSS

None