

Color Descriptions

For all Breeds which do not have color descriptions in their individual Standards. Any differing description in a Standard takes precedence.

To use this chart, combine the base color with one or more patterns. For example: combine the description for the base color Blue with the descriptions for the Shaded pattern and the And White pattern to get the description for Blue Shaded and White. Or combine the descriptions for the base colors Black and Red with the description for Tortoiseshell and the description for Smoke to get the description for Smoke Tortie.

Base Colors

White: Pure clear white. May show small colored cap on head in kittens and immature adults. Eye color blue, green, hazel to copper, amber, aqua or odd eyed with equal color depth. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Blue: Even blue, lighter shades preferred, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads blue.

Black: Lustrous jet black, with sound color to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads black or charcoal.

Red: Deep, rich red, free from shadings, markings or ticking, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads brick red.

Cream: One level shade of cream, lighter shades preferred. Free from shading, markings or ticking, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Chocolate: Warm milk chocolate, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads cinnamon pink.

Lavender: Frosty gray with pinkish tone, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather lavender; paw pads lavender to coral pink.

Sable: Rich, warm sable brown, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather light brown; paw pads brown.

Champagne: Warm toned beige, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads pinkish tan.

Platinum: Warm pearly gray, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads lavender pink to lavender gray.

Cinnamon: Warm, reddish brown, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather salmon; paw pads salmon pink.

Fawn: Warm tan with peach tones, may have a slight blue cast, one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Apricot: The color of dark dried apricots. All Apricots have a metallic sheen which is not seen on any other color except Caramel and which gives them a bronze appearance. This metallic sheen is most obvious on the top of the head, the bottom of the feet and the elbows. The color should be one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Caramel: Shows both a brown/orange tone and a blue tone on the same cat. The blue-based Caramels look like very muddy blues. The fawn-based Caramels are nearly taupe colored. All Caramels have a metallic sheen not seen on any other color except Apricot. This metallic sheen

is most obvious on the top of the head, the bottom of the feet and the elbows. The color should be one level tone without shading or markings from nose to tip of tail, and sound to the roots. Eyes any color except blue or aqua. Nose leather and paw pads brownish blue to pinkish gray.

Tortoiseshell Pattern (including Blue Cream)

Clearly defined patches of a black form base color (Black, Chocolate, Sable, Champagne, Cinnamon) with Red or (Blue, Lavender, Platinum, Fawn) with Cream. The Tortoiseshell form of Caramel has patches of Caramel and Apricot. Tabby markings allowed only in Red or Cream patches. No tabby markings is preferred. Patching preferred over brindling. Eye color, nose leather and paw pads to correspond with either or both of the two base colors.

Tabby Patterns

Classic Tabby Pattern:

Markings dense, clearly defined and broad showing good contrast between the pale ground color and the deep, heavy markings. Legs evenly barred with bracelets coming up to meet the body markings. Tail evenly ringed. At least one unbroken necklace on neck or upper chest. Frown marks on the forehead extending between the ears and down the neck to meet the "butterfly", single or double, on the shoulders. An unbroken line runs back from the outer corner of the eye to the ear. Swirls on cheeks. Back markings consist of a vertical line down the spine from Butterfly to tail with a vertical stripe paralleling it on each side. The three stripes well separated by stripes of the ground color. The dark swirls on the sides of the body shall be centered by a dark blotch surrounded by the ground color. The underside of the body should have a double vertical row of buttons in the color of the dense markings.

McTabby Pattern: Markings dense, clearly defined and all narrow penciling, showing good contrast between the pale ground color and the dense markings. Legs evenly barred with bracelets coming up to meet the body markings. Tail evenly ringed. At least one unbroken necklace on neck or upper chest. Frown marks on the forehead extending between the ears and down the neck to meet the shoulders. An unbroken line runs back from the outer corner of the eye to the ear. There are three distinct spine lines but they are very narrow and often meld into what looks like one wide stripe without fault. Narrow penciling lines in the dense marking color run around the body in vertical fashion in the unbroken lines. The underside of the body should have a double row of vertical buttons in the color of the dense markings.

Spotted Tabby Pattern: Good, clear spotting is the first essential. The spots may be round, oblong or rosette shaped. Any of these markings are of equal merit but, the spots, however shaped or placed, should be distinct and not running into each other.

Ticked Tabby Pattern: Each hair has 3 or more bands of ground and base color beginning with the ground color at the skin and ending with the base color on the tip. Necklaces, leg barring and tail rings acceptable but not preferred. Necklace, if present, must be broken.

Tabby Base and Ground Color

Eye color agrees with Base Color except as noted

Blue Tabby: Markings Blue; Ground color pale bluish ivory. Warm fawn overtones overall. Nose leather and paw pads rose.

Brown Tabby: Markings Black; Ground color tawny brown. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads black or brown.

Silver(Black) Tabby: Markings Black; Ground color pale silver. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads black. Eye color green.

All other Silver Tabbies: Markings Base color; Ground color silver. Nose leather rose. Paw pads black, brown or pink.

Chocolate Tabby: Markings Chocolate; Ground color warm brown to beige. Nose leather and paw pads rose.

Cinnamon Tabby: Markings Cinnamon; Ground color pale warm honey. Nose leather and paw pads pinkish tan.

Sable Tabby: Markings Sable; Ground color ivory to tan. Nose leather rose. Paw pads brown.

Champagne Tabby: Markings Champagne; Ground color pale beige. Nose leather and paw pads rose.

Lavender Tabby: Markings Lavender; Ground color light lavender. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Platinum Tabby: Markings Platinum; Ground color very pale pearly gray. Nose leather pink. Paw pads lavender pink to lavender gray.

Fawn Tabby: Markings Fawn; Ground color pale ivory. Nose leather and paw pads dusty rose.

Apricot Tabby: Markings Apricot; Ground color light apricot. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Caramel Tabby: Markings Caramel; Ground color orange toned. Nose leather and paw pads rose.

Red Tabby: Markings Red; Ground color light red. Nose leather and paw pads brick red.

Cream Tabby: Markings Cream; Ground color pale cream. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Cameo Tabby: Markings Red; Ground color pale ivory white. Nose leather and paw pads rose.

Cream Cameo Tabby: Markings cream; Ground color pale ivory white. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

Golden Tabby: Markings dark brown to black; Ground color warm cream with orange tones. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown or black. Eye color green.

Patched Tabby Pattern

Clearly defined patches of any black form base color Tabby and the appropriate red form base color Tabby as described in Tortoiseshell. (Example: black form Brown Tabby and red form Red Tabby to make Brown Patched Tabby). Patched Tabbies may have Ticked, Classic, Mackerel or Spotted pattern. A cat with tabby markings only in the Red or Cream patches and not the other colored patches is not a Patched Tabby.

Chinchilla/Shell Cameo Pattern

Base color on tip of guard hairs. Remainder of the hair shaft and undercoat pale silver or silvery white. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined in base color. Nose leather brick red or pink. Paw pads correspond with base color. Eye color green to gold.

Golden Chinchilla Pattern

Hairs tipped with any base color. Ground color shows a high degree of rufousing giving it apricot to golden tones. Nose leather brick red to pink. Paw pads correspond with base color. Eye color green.

Shaded/Shaded Cameo Pattern

Any base color on the end 1/3rd of the guard hairs giving the appearance of a mantle of color on the back and sides. Remainder of the hair shaft and undercoat pale silver or silvery white. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined in base color. Nose leather brick red or pink. Paw pads correspond with base color. Eye color green to gold.

Shaded Golden Pattern

Any base color on the end 1/3rd of the guard hairs giving the appearance of a mantle of color on the back and sides. Ground color shows a high degree of rufousing giving it apricot to golden tones. Nose leather brick red to pink. Paw pads correspond with base color. Eye color green.

Smoke/Smoke Cameo Pattern

Silver white undercoat tipped 2/3rd with base color. Cat in repose appears solid colored. Tabby marking may be evident in kittens but are a fault in mature adults. Nose leather and paw pads correspond to base color. Eye color green to copper.

Pointed Pattern

Eye color must be blue. Nose leather and paw pads correspond to Base Color. Tabby Pattern is called Lynx. Tortoiseshell Pattern is called Tortie.

Points: Any base color on the face, ears, legs and tail. Points should be clearly defined and matching. Lighter colored hairs in the points is a fault. No barring except in Lynx Points. Allow for slow point development in kittens. Allow 2 years for full point development in Red Points and Cream Points.

Body Color: Ranging from pale beige to glacial white depending on base color. Shading, if any, to be even and the same tone as the points. Allow for darker bodies in older cats.

Two base colors are found only in Pointed.

Seal: Deep seal brown

Lilac: Frosty gray with a pinkish tone

Mink Pattern

Eye color: Aqua preferred, blue-green accepted. Nose leather and paw pads correspond to base color.

Base colors are Natural, Blue, Champagne, Platinum, Red and Cream only. The Mink pattern consists of any of these 6 base colors on the face, ears, legs and tail and a lighter version of that same color on the body. There must be a visible contrast between the body and the points. No tabby markings.

The base color Natural is found only in Mink: Rich dark chocolate to sable brown

Sepia

Any base color carrying the genes $c^b c^b$. Sepia colors will be paler and warmer than the non Sepia form. The coat darkens with age. Eye color hazel to gold. Nose leather and paw pads correspond with base color.

And White

Eye color corresponds to base color.

A random combination of any color or pattern and white with a preferred minimum of 1/3 white. Eyes, nose leather and paw pads to conform to indicative coat color.

NOTE:

A cat having white expressed only in the form of a locket and/or belly spots and/or toes does not have enough white and should be disqualified.

Van

A cat comprised mostly of white with any base color or pattern allowable as follows:

#1: Confined to head and tail. This is a perfectly marked van, and therefore, the most desirable. The following markings will rank behind the above in desirability on an equal level with each other. These are still acceptable markings and should not carry a color penalty.

#2: Confined to the head, tail, feet and legs.

#3: Trail extension onto the back from the base of the tail and/or where the color extends down the backside of the hind legs. Note: The extension onto the back may contain some white, but must not be completely broken with white.

#4: Shoulder extension where the color extends down the back and neck to the shoulder area.

#5: One or two small body patches anywhere on the body.