

# **THE BOMBAY**

## ***Dolores Kennedy – Breed Chair***

This is a breed that was developed by a woman, Nikki Horner, in Louisville, KY in 1966. Her vision was to produce a miniature Panther for the cat fancy.

To reach that goal, she combined two breeds, sable Burmese and black American Shorthairs. A combination of those two breeds resulted in a cat with Burmese musculature, a black coat with beautiful sheen, and the gold to copper eyes of the American.

This gave the cat a look of a mini-panther, which she named Bombay, for the black leopard of India and the city of Bombay.



To develop this new breed it was necessary produce a great number of kittens. Since black is dominant over sable, many were black and pet homes needed to be found. At that time Louisville, Kentucky might have had more black cats than any other city.

Some of the outstanding Burmese males used were GCH Shawnee Casius Clay, GCH Shawnee Little Brown Jug and his son GRC Shawnee Col. Casey. These Burmese males were used extensively in the early breeding of Bombay.

The black Americans used to supply coat and eye color were males GRC David Copperfield of Shawnee and CRC Shawnee Shot in the Dark. The American females used included GRC Esquire Escapade of Shawnee, CH David's Black Onyx and Shawnee Obsidian.

It is never easy to follow a vision and bring the result to a complete show cat as we see today in the show halls. It cannot happen overnight. Requirements have to be met for registration.

The new breed had extensive exhibition in the Provisional class at shows, where judges handled them and asked questions. The best Bombay specimens were taken to the Cat Fanciers Association's Board of Directors for their Annual meeting in 1970 at Niagara Falls. At that time the Bombay was accepted for registration. Next they had to advance from registration to Provisional status. This included the formation of at least one breed club and registration of at least 100 specimens of the proposed breed. This was completed in May, 1974.



On May 1, 1976, the Bombay was eligible to compete in the championship classes. Allowable outcrosses for the breed were black Americans and Burmese.

Without the determination and dedication of Nikki Horner, we would not have the beautiful Bombay we see in the show halls today.

In 1980/81 ACFA accepted Hybrids for exhibiting and introduced those cats into the Championship show rings, opening the doors for several breeds, the Bombay among them.

In 1980, Midnite Moongazer of Teekalet, bred by Lucia A. Pozzi and owned by Rosina Baugh, became the first Bombay to earn InterAmerican Best of Breed in ACFA. Ten years later Lanninglane Charlie Sheen, bred and owned by Geneva Lanning, was named InterAmerican 4<sup>th</sup> Best Cat, becoming the first Bombay in the Top 20 Cats.

In appearance, the Bombay looks very much like a Burmese; however, the Bombay will often be a bit larger than and not quite as compact as the Burmese.



**General:** The Bombay is a “black” cat, medium in size and muscular in development – neither compact nor rangy. The coat is short and fine with a satin-like texture and patent leather sheen. Its head is pleasingly rounded with no sharp angles resulting in a full face with considerable breadth between the eyes. In agreement with its solid black color, the nose leather and paw pads are also black.

**NOTE:** For general information only. See approved Standard below.

**Head: Shape:** The head should be pleasingly rounded with no sharp angles. The face should be full with considerable breadth between the eyes, tapering slightly to a short well-developed muzzle. In profile, there should be a visible nose break; however, it should not present a “plugged”

or “snubbed” look. **Chin:** Firm, neither receding nor protruding, reflecting a proper bite. **Ears:** Medium in size and set well apart on a rounded skull; alert, tilting slightly forward; broad at the base and with slightly rounded tips. **Eyes:** Set far apart with rounded aperture. Eye color ranges from gold to copper, the greater depth and brilliance the better. 40 points are allotted for all this.

**Body:** Medium in size, muscular in development, neither compact nor rangy. Allowance is to be made for larger size in males. **Legs:** In proportion to body and tail. **Feet:** Five toes in front, four in back. **Tail:** Straight, medium in length; neither short nor “whippy”. 20 points for body and tail.

**Coat: Texture:** Fine, short, satin-like texture; close-lying with a shimmering patent leather sheen. 20 points.

**Color:** Accepted color - Black. The mature specimen should be black to the roots. Kitten coats should darken and become more sleek with age. Nose leather and paw pads - Black. 20 points

So based on the allocation of points, the head, coat and texture are the most important features of the Bombay. The copper eye and the short sleek, black coat really does bring out the impression of a miniature panther, which is exactly what the designer of this breed had in mind. Thanks to her determination and vision, we now have the Bombay appearing in our show halls.



# BOMBAY

<b>HEAD</b>	<b>40 Points</b>
Roundness of head	( 7)
Full Face/ Proper Profile	( 7)
Chin	( 4)
Ears	( 7)
Eyes - Placement/ Shape	( 5)
- Color	(10)
<b>BODY/TAIL</b>	<b>20 Points</b>
Shape/Size	(15)
Tail	( 5)
<b>COAT</b>	<b>20 Points</b>
Texture	( 5)
Length	(10)
Close-lying	( 5)
<b>COLOR</b>	<b>20 Points</b>

**General:** The Bombay is a “black” cat, medium in size and muscular in development – neither compact nor rangy. The coat is short and fine with a satin-like texture and a patent leather sheen. Its head is pleasingly rounded with no sharp angles resulting in a full face with considerable breadth between the eyes. In agreement with its solid black color, the nose leather and paw pads are also black.

NOTE: For general information only. See approved Standard below.

## Head:

**Shape:** The head should be pleasingly rounded with no sharp angles. The face should be full with considerable breadth between the eyes, tapering slightly to a short well-developed muzzle. In profile, there should be a visible nose break; however, it should not present a “pugged” or “snubbed” look. **Chin:** Firm, neither receding nor protruding, reflecting a proper bite. **Ears:** Medium in size and set well apart on a rounded skull; alert, tilting slightly forward; broad at the base and with slightly rounded tips. **Eyes:** Set far apart with rounded aperture. Eye color ranges from gold to copper, the greater depth and brilliance the better.

## Body:

**Body:** Medium in size, muscular in development, neither compact nor rangy. Allowance is to be made for larger size in males. **Legs:** In proportion to body and tail. **Feet:** Five toes in front, four in back. **Tail:** Straight, medium in length; neither short nor “whippy”.

## Coat:

**Texture:** Fine, short, satin-like texture; close-lying with a shimmering patent leather sheen.

## Color:

Accepted color - Black. The mature specimen should be black to the roots. Kitten coats should darken and become more sleek with age. Nose leather and paw pads - Black.

## WITHHOLD:

Kinked or abnormal tail. Lockets or spots. Incorrect number of toes. Nose leather or paw pads other than black. Green eyes. Improper bite. Extreme break that interferes with normal breathing and tear drainage.