

# MAINE COON CAT

<b>HEAD</b>	<b>35 Points</b>
Shape	(10)
Profile	(10)
Ears	(10)
Eyes	( 5)
<b>BODY/TAIL</b>	<b>35 Points</b>
Shape	(15)
Legs/Feet	(10)
Tail	(10)
<b>COAT</b>	<b>20 Points</b>
Length	(10)
Texture	(10)
<b>COLOR</b>	<b>10 Points</b>

**General:** The Maine Coon is a working cat, muscular, solid, medium to large in size with the look of the wild. This cat is a result of natural evolution, capable of surviving a harsh climate with little or no human assistance. Thus, this cat may be reserved initially toward strange people and new situations, yet the Maine Coon does have an amiable disposition. Males may be larger, females are usually smaller. Females should not be penalized because of this size difference. Allowance should be made for slow maturation, as a Maine Coon does not achieve ultimate type until three to four years of age. Type must not be sacrificed for size, or size for type.

## Head:

**Shape:** The head is medium in width and slightly longer than wide with allowance for broadening and jowls in males. Muzzle is square when viewed from any angle. Cheek bones are high. Chin must be firm and in line with nose and upper lip. **Profile:** The nose is slightly concave with no break. **Ears:** Large, tall, wide at base, tapering to appear pointed, with lynx-like tipping and inner tufts extending beyond the outer edge of the ears. They are set high on the head, the distance between them being equal to the width of an ear at its base. **Eyes:** Large, round, wide-set, with a slightly oblique setting. Eye color may be shades of green, gold or amber. Clarity of color is desired. There is no relationship between eye color and coat color, except in solid white cats, which may be blue-eyed, amber-eyed, green-eyed or odd-eyed. **The overall look of the Maine Coon Cat should be one of balance, with no one feature dominating others, including lynx-tipping, ear tufts, ears and muzzle.**

## Body and Tail:

**Body:** Medium to large in size, muscular and broad chested. The body should be long with all parts proportioned to create a rectangular appearance. Neck medium to long; may be thick and muscular in older males. The body should feel solid, with firm muscle and no flabbiness. When viewed from the rear, there is a definite squareness to the rump. **Legs/Feet:** Sturdily boned, wide-set, medium in length, in proportion to the body. Feet large, round and well tufted underneath and between the pads. **Tail:** Long, at least the length of the body, wide at the base and tapering to the tip.

## Coat:

**Length:** Coat is uneven in length and markedly subject to seasonal variation. Fur on head, neck and shoulders is short, becoming gradually longer along the back toward the tail and down the sides toward the belly. Britches and belly fur are full and shaggy. The coat flows smoothly down the body, continuing in the same manner on the tail. There is a frontal ruff, generally heavier on males than females. The tail is heavy furred, long and flowing, but it is not bushy as is a fox's brush. **Texture:** More or less self maintaining, the coat is warm with a light density undercoat covered by a water proof outer coat. The coat is not fluffy. Coat texture may vary with coat color.

## Color:

White trim around the chin and lip line allowed except in solid color cats.

## Condition:

There is no point score for condition as such. Flabbiness, obesity, emaciation, dull coat, evidence of illness, or any other indication that the cat is not in good physical condition or has not had proper grooming are faults and should be penalized under the appropriate heading constituting the point score.

## Accepted Colors:

Blue Eyed White	Blue Patched Tabby	Chinchilla
Amber Eyed White	Blue Silver Patched Tabby	Blue Chinchilla
Green Eyed White	Brown Patched Tabby	Golden Chinchilla
Odd Eyed White	Silver Patched Tabby	Blue Cream Chinchilla
Blue	Golden Patched Tabby	Chinchilla Tortoiseshell
Black		Golden Chinchilla Tortoiseshell
Cream	Patched McTabby – Same colors	Shell Cameo
Red	as Patched Classic Tabby	Cream Shell Cameo
Blue Tabby	Blue Cream	
Cream Tabby	Tortoiseshell	Shaded Silver
Red Tabby		Blue Shaded
Brown Tabby	Blue Smoke	Shaded Cameo
	Black Smoke	Cream Shaded Cameo
Silver Tabby	Smoke Cameo	Golden Shaded
Blue Silver Tabby	Cream Smoke Cameo	Blue Cream Shaded
Golden Tabby	Golden Smoke	Shaded Silver Tortoiseshell
Cameo Tabby	Blue Cream Smoke	Golden Shaded Tortoiseshell
Cream Cameo Tabby	Black Smoke Tortoiseshell	
	Golden Smoke Tortoiseshell	Any recognized Maine Coon Cat
Mackerel Tabby – Same colors		color/pattern with White is acceptable.
as Classic Tabby		
		Any recognized Maine Coon Cat
		color/pattern with Van is acceptable.

## PATTERN/COLOR DESCRIPTIONS:

### **Solid Colors:**

**White:** Pure clear white. Eyes blue, green, amber or odd eyed with equal color depth. Nose leather and paw pads pink.

**Blue:** One level shade of blue, lighter shades preferred; free from shading, markings or ticking and sound to the roots. Nose leather and paw pads blue. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Black:** Lustrous jet black, with sound color from roots to tip of fur. Nose leather and paw pads black or charcoal. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Cream:** One level shade of cream, lighter shades preferred; free from shading, markings, or ticking and sound to the roots. Nose leather and paw pads pink. Eye shades of green, gold or amber.

**Red:** Deep rich red, free from shading, markings or ticking, and sound to the roots. Nose leather and paw pads brick red. Eye shades of green, gold or amber.

### **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' on the shoulders. An unbroken line runs back from the outer corner of the eye. Swirls on cheeks. Back markings consist of a vertical line down the spine from the butterfly to tail with a vertical stripe paralleling it on each side. The three stripes are 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 ground color. The underside of the body should have a double row of vertical buttons in the color of the dense markings.

**Mc Tabby 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 all very narrow and often meld into what looks like one wide stripe without fault. Narrow penciling lines in the dense marking color runs 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.

**Patched Tabby Pattern:** Markings to conform to either the Classic Tabby or Mackerel Tabby pattern. The Patched Tabby is an established blue, brown, silver, blue silver or golden tabby with patches of red.

**Tabby Colors:**

**Blue Tabby:** The ground color should be pale bluish ivory. Markings are very deep blue, providing good contrast to the lighter ground color. Warm fawn patina over the whole. Nose leather and paw pads rose. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Blue Silver Tabby:** The ground color should be pure, clear silver. Markings are deep blue, affording good contrast to the light ground color. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors.

**Red Tabby:** The ground color should be red. Markings a dense, darker red providing good contrast with the lighter red ground color. Nose leather and paw pads brick red. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Cream Tabby:** The ground color should be very pale cream. Markings of cream are sufficiently darker than the ground color to provide good contrast, but remain within the dilute color range. Nose leather and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Brown Tabby:** The ground color should be a rich, tawny brown. Markings dense black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads slate or black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Silver Tabby:** The ground color should be pale, pure silver. Markings dense black. Rims of eyes, nose and lips outlined in black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Golden Tabby:** The ground color should be rich warm gold to apricot, apricot preferred. Markings dark brown to black. Rims of eyes and nose outlined with dark brown or black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown or black. Clarity of markings takes precedence over depth of tipping. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Cameo Tabby:** The ground color should be pale ivory. Markings are red, diminishing in intensity of color approaching the roots of the hairs. Clarity of markings takes precedence over depth of tipping. Nose leather and paw pads rose. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Cream Cameo Tabby:** The ground color should be pale ivory. Markings are cream diminishing in intensity of color approaching the roots of the hairs. Clarity of markings takes precedence over depth of tipping. Nose leather and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold, or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Blue Patched Tabby:** The ground color should be pale bluish ivory. Markings a very deep blue providing good contrast with the pale ground color. Patches of cream clearly defined on both body and extremities. Cream markings on the face are desirable. Warm fawn overtones or patina over the whole. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Blue Silver Patched Tabby:** The ground color should be pure, clear silver. Markings deep blue, providing good contrast with the pale ground color. Patches of red clearly defined on both body and extremities. Red markings on the face are desirable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Brown Patched Tabby:** The ground color should be rich, tawny brown. Markings of dense black with patches of red cream clearly defined on both body and extremities. Markings of red on the face are desirable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Silver Patched Tabby:** The ground color is pure pale silver. Markings dense black. Patches of red clearly defined on both body and extremities. Markings of red on the face are desirable. Rims of eyes, nose and lips are outlined in black. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

**Golden Patched Tabby:** The ground color should be rich warm gold to apricot, apricot preferred. Markings dark brown to black. Patches of red clearly defined on both body and extremities. Markings of red on the face are desirable. Rims of eyes, nose and lips outlined in dark brown or black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown or black. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber. White lip/chin trim allowed.

### **Tortoiseshell Colors:**

**Blue Cream:** Blue and cream, lighter shades preferred, clearly visible on both body and extremities. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Cream markings on the face are desirable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Tortoiseshell:** Black and red clearly visible on both body and extremities. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Red markings on the face are desirable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eye shades of green, gold or amber.

### **Smoke Colors:**

**Blue Smoke:** White undercoat deeply tipped with blue. Cat in repose appears blue. In motion the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face blue with narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. Silver ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads blue. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Black Smoke:** White undercoat deeply tipped with black. Cat in repose appears black. In motion, the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face black and narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. White ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Smoke Cameo:** White undercoat deeply tipped with red. Cat in repose appears red. In motion, the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face red with narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. White ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads rose. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Cream Smoke Cameo:** White undercoat deeply tipped with cream. Cat in repose appears cream. In motion the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face cream with narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. White ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Golden Smoke:** Rich warm gold to apricot undercoat, apricot preferred, deeply tipped with black. Cat in repose appears black. In motion, the golden undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face black with narrow band of golden at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. Golden ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown or black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Blue Cream Smoke:** White undercoat deeply tipped with blue and cream which are clearly visible on both body and extremities. Cat in repose appears blue cream. In motion, the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face blue cream with narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. White ruff and ear tufts. Cream markings on the face are desirable. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat color. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Black Smoke Tortoiseshell:** White undercoat deeply tipped with black and red which are clearly visible on both body and extremities. Cat in repose appears tortoiseshell. In motion, the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face black and red with narrow band of white at base of hair next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. Silver ruff and ear tufts. Red markings on the face are desirable. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat color. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

### **Shaded Colors:**

**Chinchilla:** Undercoat a pale silver or silvery white. The coat on back, flanks, head and tail sufficiently tipped with jet black to give the characteristic sparkling silver appearance. The legs and feet may be slightly shaded with tipping, but the chin, ear tufts, stomach and chest should be silvery white with no tipping. Rims of eyes, lips and nose leather outlined in black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads black or dark charcoal. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Shaded Silver:** Undercoat is pale silver or silvery white. A mantle of black tipping shades gradually down the sides, face and tail, from dark on the ridge to silvery white on the chin, chest, belly and under the tail. The legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect is much darker than a chinchilla. Rims of eyes, nose leather and lips outlined in black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads black or dark charcoal. Eye shades of green, gold or amber.

**Shell Cameo:** Undercoat is ivory white. The coat on back, flanks, head and tail should be sufficiently tipped with red to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. The legs and face may be very slightly shaded with tipping, but the ear tufts, stomach and chest should be ivory white with no tipping. Nose leather, rims of eyes and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Cream Shell Cameo:** Undercoat is ivory white. The coat on back, flanks, head and tail should be sufficiently tipped with cream to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. The legs and face may be very slightly shaded with tipping, but the ear tufts, stomach and chest should be ivory white with no tipping. Nose leather, rims of eyes and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Shaded Cameo:** Undercoat is ivory white. A mantle of red tipping shades gradually down the sides, face and tail, from dark on the ridge to ivory white on the chin, chest, belly and under the tail. The legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect is much darker than a shell. Nose leather, rims of eyes and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Cream Cameo:** Undercoat is ivory white. A mantle of cream tipping shades gradually down the sides, face and tail, from dark on the ridge to ivory white on chin, chest, belly and under the tail. The legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect is much darker than a shell. Nose leather, rings of eyes and paw pads pink. Eyes shades of green, gold, or amber.

**Golden Chinchilla:** Undercoat should be rich, warm gold to apricot, apricot preferred. The coat on back, flanks, head and tail should be sufficiently tipped with dark brown to black to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. The legs and face may be slightly shaded with tipping, but ear tufts, stomach and chest should be cream to apricot with no tipping. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined in dark brown to black. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown to black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Golden Shaded:** The undercoat should be rich warm gold to apricot, apricot preferred. A mantle of dark brown to black tipping shades gradually down the sides, face and tail, from dark on the ridge to golden on the chest, belly and under the tail. The legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect is much darker than a shell. Nose leather brick red. Paw pads dark brown to black. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Blue Cream Shaded:** Undercoat is silvery white with blue and cream tipping well distributed and clearly visible on both body and extremities. The depth of tipping may range from shell to shaded with evenness of tipping taking precedence over depth. Cream markings on the face are desirable. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Shaded Silver Tortie:** White undercoat with black and red tipping clearly visible on both body and extremities. The depth of tipping may range from shell to shaded with evenness to tipping taking precedence over depth. Red markings on the face are desirable. Patching or brindling equally acceptable. Nose leather and paw pads black and/or pink. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

#### **And Whites:**

Are cats which combine any of the recognized colors/patterns of the breed with white in a pattern that is pleasing to the eye. Having 1/4 white is desirable, but not mandatory. All colors should be judged according to the listed color descriptions preceding. White lip/chin trim is allowed. Eyes shades of green, gold or amber.

**Van:** A cat comprised mostly of white with color allowable as follows: Color confined to the head and tail. This is the perfectly marked Van. One or two small body spots of color are allowed. The Van may be marked as above, bearing in mind that the least amount of color markings other than head and tail is most desirable. Accepted in all recognized colors of Maine Coon Cat.

#### **PENALIZE:**

Untufted paws. Persian-like break in nose. Persian-like undercoat, short tail, short rounded muzzle.

#### **WITHHOLD:**

Delicate bone structure, overall even coat, undershot chin, short cobby body and legs, kinked tail, crossed eyes, polydactylism, lockets, groin spots or other small white spots on full colored (non-and white) colors and patterns.