

NORWEGIAN FOREST CAT

HEAD	35 Points
Shape	(10)
Profile	(10)
Ears	(5)
Eyes	(5)
Chin	(5)
BODY/TAIL	30 Points
Shape	(10)
Legs/Feet	(10)
Tail	(10)
COAT	25 Points
COLOR/PATTERN	10 Points

General: The Norwegian Forest Cat is a sturdy cat with a distinguishing double coat and easily recognizable body shape. It is a slow maturing breed, attaining full growth at approximately five years of age.

Head:

Shape: Equilateral triangle – all sides are of equal length as measured from the outside of the base of the ear to the outside base of the other ear and following a line down the side of the head to the point of the chin and back up to the ear. The neck is short and heavily muscled. **Profile:** Nose is straight from the brow ridge to the tip without a break in the line. The flat forehead continues into a gently curved skull. **Ears:** Medium to large, rounded at the tip, broad at the base, set as much on the side of the head as on top of the head – alert, with the cup of the ears pointing a bit sideways. The outside of the ear follows a line down the side of the head to the chin. Ears are heavily tufted. Lynx tips desirable. **Eyes:** Large, almond shaped, well-opened, expressive; set at a slight angle with the outer corner higher than the inner corner. Eye Color: Green, gold or copper. White cats may also be odd-eyed or blue eyed. **Chin:** Firm and in line with the front of the nose – gently rounded in profile.

Body and Tail:

Body: Moderate in length, substantial bone structure, with a powerful appearance showing a broad chest and considerable girth without being fat. Great depth of flank. Males are large and imposing; females may be smaller and more refined. **Legs/Feet:** Medium in size with hind legs longer than front legs making the rump higher than the shoulders. Thighs are heavily muscled; lower legs substantial. When viewed from the rear, back legs are straight. When viewed from the front, the paws appear to “toe out”. Large round paws with heavy tufting between the toes. Five toes in front, four in back. **Tail:** Long and bushy. The length is equal to the body from the base of the tail to the base of the neck.

Coat:

Double coat, consisting of a dense woolly undercoat, covered by long, smooth, glossy guard hairs. The coat is semi-long and uneven. The bib consists of three separate sections: short collar at neck, side mutton chops and full frontal ruff. Britches are full on hind legs. The body coat is long and flowing. Allowances are to be made for seasonal changes. The coat is in full development in the winter months. The coat “drops” in the spring making the cat look almost shorthaired except for the ears and toe tufting.

Color:

Every color and pattern is allowable with or without white WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE SHOWING HYBRIDIZATION RESULTING IN THE COLORS CHOCOLATE, OR LAVENDER/LILAC, OR THE POINTED PATTERN OR THOSE COMBINATIONS WITH WHITE. Any amount of white is allowed e.g. white spots on paws, back, chest or belly; a blaze, a locket, etc. The degree of symmetry, whether in the pattern or the white spotting is of no importance. Nose leather and paw pads are accepted in all colors and in any color combination, not necessarily related to coat color except where so noted. Cats with white on feet may have pink paw pads or they may be bi-color or multi-colored.

Accepted Colors:

Blue Eyed White	Blue Patched Tabby	Shaded Silver
Copper Eyed White	Brown Patched Tabby	Golden Shaded
Odd Eyed White	Blue Silver Patched Tabby	Shaded Cameo
Blue	Silver Patched Tabby	Cream Cameo
Black	Golden Patched Tabby	Blue Cream Shaded
Cream	[Above colors recognized in	Shaded Silver Tortoiseshell
Red	Classic & Mackerel patterns]	Golden Shaded Tortoiseshell
Blue Tabby		Blue Smoke
Cream Tabby		Black Smoke
Red Tabby		Smoke Cameo
Brown Tabby		Golden Smoke
Blue Silver Tabby	Blue Cream	Blue Cream Smoke
Silver Tabby	Tortoiseshell	Black Smoke Tortoiseshell
Golden Tabby	Chinchilla	Golden Smoke Tortoiseshell
Cameo Tabby	Golden Chinchilla	
[Above colors also recognized	Shell Cameo	
in Mackerel, Spotted and	Cream Shell Cameo	Blue Cream & White
Ticked patterns]	Golden Chinchilla Tortoiseshell	Tortoiseshell & White

PATTERN/COLOR DESCRIPTIONS:

Solid Colors:

White: Pure clear white. Eyes blue, copper or odd eyed (one blue and one copper eye) with equal color depth. Nose leather and paw pads pink – desirable.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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

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 - desirable. Eye shades of green, gold or copper.

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

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 one or more unbroken rings. Side markings should be the same on both sides. The underside of the body should have a double row of 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 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 and/or cream.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. 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 copper. 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. White chin/lip 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, bold or copper. 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 - desirable. Clarity of markings takes precedence over depth of tipping. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper. 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 copper. 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 copper. White lip/chin trim allowed.

Brown Patched Tabby: The ground color should be rich, tawny brown. Markings of dense black with patches of red 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 copper. 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 copper. 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 copper. 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 copper.

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 copper.

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. White ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads blue - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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. Silver ruff and ear tufts. Nose leather and paw pads black - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

Golden Smoke: Rich warm gold to apricot undercoat, apricot preferred, deeply trimmed 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

Blue Cream Smoke: White undercoat deeply tipped with blue and cream which are clearly visible on both body and extremities. Cat in repose appears bluecream. In motion, the white undercoat is apparent. Extremities and face bluecream 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 copper.

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 copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eye shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

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 copper.

Shaded Silver Tortoiseshell: 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 - desirable. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

Amber Colors:

All colors and combinations are allowed with or without white.

Amber(non agouti): yellow recessive color that presents as dark honey-chestnut. Kittens will be warm brown with coats gradually maturing to amber color. They may have ghost tabby markings that darken with age. Nose is dark brown/charcoal- black. Ears are rimmed with dark fading to amber. Paw pads: dark brown or black

Amber Smoke: undercoat white, deeply tipped with Amber. Face, legs and tail, amber with narrow band of white at base of hairs next to skin in which may be seen only when fur is parted.

Light Amber (dilute of non agouti): pale beige blonde. Kittens will appear blue with coats gradually maturing to light amber color. They may have ghost tabby markings that darken with age. Nose is blue/dark blue. Ears are rimmed with dark fading to light amber. Paw pads: blue.

Light Amber Smoke: undercoat white, deeply tipped with Light Amber. Face, legs and tail, light amber with narrow band of white at base of hairs next to skin which may be seen only when fur is parted.

Amber Tabby (classic, mackerel, spotted, ticked): Ground color amber. Markings are a deep, rich amber. Kittens will appear as warm brown tabbies; amber color evolves with maturity. Nose leather: pink. Paw pads: pink as kittens, changing to dark brown or black as cat matures.

Light Amber Tabby (classic, mackerel, spotted, ticked): Ground color pale, beige blonde. Markings are sufficiently darker to afford good contrast. Kittens will appear as blue tabbies; light amber color evolves as kitten matures. Nose leather: pink. Paw pads: pink as kittens, evolving to blue as cat matures.

Amber Tortoiseshell: amber with patches of red or inter- mingled area of red on body and extremities. The presence of several shades of red are acceptable. Kittens appear as black/dark brown and red, with black portions becoming amber.

Amber Tortoiseshell Smoke: amber with patches of red or intermingled area of red on body and extremities. The presence of several shades of red are acceptable. Undercoat is white in which may only be seen when fur is parted. Kittens appear as black/dark brown and red, with black portions becoming amber and undercoat white at the base.

& Whites: A combination of blue, black, red or cream solid color with white or Tabby, Chinchilla, Shell, Shaded, Smoke and Tortoiseshell colors with White in a pattern that is pleasing to the eye. Having at least 1/3 white is desirable, but not mandatory. The colors are as found in the color descriptions above. Nose leather and paw pads to conform to requirements for coat colors. Eyes shades of green, gold or copper.

Blue Cream & White: White cat with unbrindled patches of blue and cream. As a preferred minimum the cat should have white feet, legs, underside, chest and muzzle. Inverted blaze on face desirable.

Tortoiseshell & White: White cat with unbrindled patches of black and red. As a preferred minimum the cat should have white feet, legs, underside, chest and muzzle. Inverted blaze on face desirable.

Vans: All Tabby, Chinchilla, Shell, Shaded, Smoke and Tortoiseshell colors with White, with the colored areas 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.

The van may be marked as numbered above, or any combination of the numbered possibilities, bearing in mind that the least amount of color markings other than head and tail is most desirable.

PENALIZE:

Profile with a definite nose break, square muzzle, long neck, whisker pinch, small ears, round eyes, short tail, delicate bone structure, malocclusion, poor condition.

WITHHOLD:

Crossed eyes, kinked tail, congenitally incorrect number of toes.