

Bengal



The Bengal should be alert, friendly and affectionate with a dependable temperament. The luxurious coat is a distinct feature of the breed. The overall look of the head should be as distinctly different from the domestic cat as possible. Bengals take at least two years to mature

<p>HEAD: A broad medium wedge, with rounded contours; longer than it is wide, with high cheekbones. Rather small in proportion to the body but not taken to extremes. The curve of the forehead should flow into the bridge of the nose with no break. The line of the bridge extends to the nose tip, making a very slight to nearly straight concave curve. The nose is large and broad. The muzzle should be full and broad with a strong chin and large, pronounced whisker pads.</p> <p>EARS: Medium to small in size; the smaller ear preferred; wide at base with rounded tips; set as much on the side as on the top of the head. The ears follow the contour of the face in the front view and tilt forward in profile. Inner ear may be slightly tufted.</p> <p>EYES: Oval, almost round, large but not bold. Set wide apart and with a slight slant towards the base of the ear.</p> <p>NECK: Long, substantial, muscular and in proportion to head and body.</p> <p>BODY: Medium to large in size. Long and substantial. Neither oriental nor foreign. Very muscular in mature males. Allowances to be made for females being less muscular and smaller.</p>	<p>LEGS: Medium length, strong and muscular. Hind legs are a little longer than the front legs.</p> <p>PAWS: Rounded.</p> <p>TAIL: Medium length, thick with a rounded tip.</p> <p>COAT: Short to medium in length; very dense, luxurious and unusually soft to the touch. Coat may be glittered or not glittered with neither type to be given preference.</p>	<p>FAULTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long, rough or coarse coat. • Whippy tail. • Barely visible pattern. • Belly not spotted. • Tail tip not dark. • Penalise mackerel tabby pattern on spotted cats. • Any distinct locket anywhere on the body. • Any defects listed in Relevant to All Breeds Section. <p>Allowable outcross breeds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Standard Amended: 2001/ 2024/ 2026</p>
SCALE OF POINTS		
Head and ears		15
Eyes	Shape, set & colour	5
Body, Legs, Tail and Paws		30
Coat colour and texture		25
Pattern		15
Condition		5
Temperament		5
TOTAL		100

BENGAL PATTERNS

LEOPARD SPOTTED PATTERN (Pattern Code: Ts)

Head barred with an "M" on forehead. Dark pencilling to run from outside corners of the eyes. Light spectacles around eyes. At least one other unbroken line on cheeks. Lines on head to run on either side of scarab and down back of neck to break into spots on shoulders.

Body: Spots shall be random or aligned horizontally. Rosettes showing two distinct colours or shades, such as paw print shaped, arrowhead shaped, donut or half donut shaped or clustered are preferred to single spotting, but not required. Contrast between pattern and ground colour must be clear. Blotchy, horizontal shoulder streaks, spotted legs and spotted or rosetted tail are desirable. Strong bold chinstrap desirable. Contrast between pattern and ground colour must be extreme, giving distinct

pattern and sharp edges. Virtually white undersides and belly desirable. Belly must be spotted.

Legs: May be barred and/or spotted. Darker gauntlets on hind feet.

Tail: Ringed, streaked and / or spotted, ending in a dark tip.

Undesirable: Vertical Stripes

MARBLE PATTERN (Pattern Code: Tr)

Head barred with an "M" on forehead. Dark pencilling to run from outside corners of the eyes. Light spectacles around eyes. At least one other unbroken line on cheeks. Lines on head to run on either side of scarab and down back of neck to break into pattern on shoulders.

Body: A distinct pattern of large swirled patches and blotches or horizontal streaks. Rosettes may appear on shoulder and rear quarters. Three or more shades are desirable. Contrast between pattern and ground colour must be extreme, giving distinct pattern and sharp edges. Virtually white undersides and belly desirable.

Necklace/s may be broken or unbroken. Belly to be spotted.

Legs: May be barred and/or spotted. Darker gauntlets on hind feet.

Tail: Ringed, marbled and/or spotted, ending in a dark tip

Undesirable: Typical classic pattern.

CHARCOAL BENGAL

(Pattern Code: Cr)

Registration Code: BEN 05 Sh Tr / TsCr

Added at the end of the breed/colour code

Note: Smoke Bengals have Provisional Status as from 2025.

The Charcoal effect can be combined with **all** Bengal patterns and colours (e.g., Spotted and Marble Tabby, Sepia, Mink and Snow).

Charcoal should show definite contrast between ground colour and markings with distinct shapes, and clearly defined edges. Pattern should have a horizontal flow. Preference to be given to very dark spotted or marble markings, with clear outlines, and well

contrasted to the cold ground colour with very little to no rufousing without warm gold, or amber tones. Charcoal is grey toned rather than warm brown toned.

There must be white, or nearly white spectacles encircling the eyes. A dark mask runs all the way from the nose bridge to the nose and connects from the mascara lines all the way to the nose bridge. A wide, dark, "cape" running down the length of the back is desirable. Masks should be black and not brownish. (or dark blue in a blue Charcoal Bengal) Colour on chest and belly should be lighter than ground colour. The striped tail is dark brown/black or greyish black with a black tip, (or dark blue in a blue Charcoal Bengal)

Note: *Sepia, Mink and Snow kittens are born light and the mask is likely to develop before the cape. Allowances should be made for slower mask and cape development in Sepia, Mink and Snow kittens.*

BENGAL COAT COLOURS

BROWN TABBY (BEN 05 Tr / Ts)

Coat: All variations are allowed in both Leopard spotted and Marble Bengals; rich warm shades of brown, with pattern ranging from chocolate to black. Three colours in the coat is desirable in Marbles. An overall appearance of gold dusting is desirable. A grey base coat should not be penalised. Tail tip to be black.

Ears: There may be a light-coloured spot on the back of each ear, known as an ocelli.

Eye Colour: Gold, green or hazel **Eye Rims & Lips:** Outlined in black. **Nose Leather:** Brick red, outlined in black. **Pads:** Black

SNOW (Tabby Point) (BEN 05 TpTr/ TpTs)

Coat: Ground colour ivory to cream. Colour of pattern may vary from charcoal to dark or light brown. Tail tip dark to match colour of pattern. Overall appearance of pearl dusting (glitter) desirable.

Ears: There may be a light-coloured spot on the back of each ear, known as an ocelli.

Eye Colour: Blue

Eye Rims & Lips: Outlined in the appropriate dark colour

Nose Leather: Brick red, outlined with the appropriate dark colour.

Pads: Dark brown. May have rosy overtones

SEAL MINK TABBY: (BEN 05 MpTr/MpTs)

Coat: Ground colour can range from cream to light tan, with colour on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from medium tan, to chocolate, to dark seal brown, and must be clearly visible. The points should not be

significantly darker than the body markings and barely noticeable in adults. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark seal brown.

Nose leather: Pink to brick red. **Paw pads:** Black/brown.

Eye colour: Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

SEAL SEPIA TABBY: (BEN 05 SeTr/SeTs)

Coat: Ground colour can range from cream to tan, with colour on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from dark seal brown to rich dark brown, and should be clearly visible. Points will be slightly darker than body colour in kittens, but should be barely noticeable in adults. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark seal brown.

Nose leather: Pink to brick red. **Paw pads:** Black/dark brown.

Eye colour: Green to gold.

BLUE TABBY (BEN06Tr/Ts)

Coat: Ground colour is pale blue grey to slate blue grey, with markings being medium blue to darker blue. There should be good contrast between ground colour and markings. Warm fawn tones can be present on face, back, and legs. Underside and chest will be lighter in colour than ground colour found elsewhere. Area around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter than ground colour. Pigment around eyes and lips is dark blue.

Nose Leather: Old rose, outlined in dark blue. Allowances to be made for kittens with blue nose leather

Pads: Blue to purplish blue.

Eye Colour: Any colour other than blue.

BLUE SILVER TABBY (BEN06ShTr/Ts)

Coat: Ground colour is light blue silver with blue grey markings. Tail tip blue.

Nose Leather: Old rose, outlined in dark blue. Allowances to be made for kittens with blue nose leather.

Pads: Blue or pinkish blue **Eye Colour:** Gold to green

BLUE SNOW (Blue Tabby Point) (BEN 06 TpTr/ TpTs)

Coat: Ground colour ivory to cream. Colour of pattern may vary from light blue to dark slate blue. Tail tip blue.

Overall appearance of pearl dusting (glitter) desirable. There may be a light-coloured spot on the back of each ear, known as an ocelli.

Eye Rims & Lips: Outlined in dark blue.

Nose Leather: Old rose outlined with dark blue.

Pads: Blue. **Eye Colour:** Blue

BLUE MINK TABBY (BEN 06 MpTr/MpTs)

Coat: Ground colour can range from ivory to rich cream, with colour on chest and belly lighter. Markings may vary from medium blue to dark slate blue and be clearly visible. The points should not be significantly darker than the body markings and barely

noticeable in adults. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark slate blue.

Nose leather: Pink to brick red. **Paw pads:** Slate blue. **Eye colour:** Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

BLUE SEPIA TABBY (BEN 06 SeTr/SeTs)

Coat: Ground colour can range from medium tan to medium blue, with colour on chest and belly lighter. Markings may be various shades of darker blue with warm fawn overtones, and be clearly visible. Points will be slightly darker than body colour in kittens, but should be barely noticeable in adults. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter. Tail tip should be dark slate blue.

Nose leather: Pink to brick red. **Paw pads:** Slate blue. **Eye colour:** Green to gold.

SILVER BENGALS

BLACK SILVER TABBY (BEN 05 Sh Tr / Ts)

Coat: The roots should be silver or as white as possible, with the agouti ground areas showing contrasting bands of silver and colour at the tips of the hairs. In the patterned areas the colour should extend well down the hairs, but not to the roots. Markings should be distinct, intense and with sharp edges, with extreme contrast between markings and ground colour. Back of hind feet to be shaded with the appropriate colour. Underside of tail will be paler. Tail tip to be black.

Desirable: Overall appearance of pearl dusting (glitter) Three shades in the pattern in Marbles.

Tarnishing of the coat **is undesirable.**

Ears: There may be a light-coloured spot on the back of each ear, known as an ocelli.

Eye Rims & Lips: Outlined in black. **Nose Leather:** Brick red, outlined in black.

Pads: Black **Eye colour:** Gold, green or hazel

SILVER SNOW (Silver tabby Point) (BEN05ShTpTr /Ts)

Coat: The roots should be silver or as white as possible, with the agouti ground areas shading to an ivory to cream ground colour at the tips of the hairs..

Colour of pattern may vary from charcoal to dark or light brown. In the patterned areas the colour should extend well down the hairs, but not to the roots. Back of hind feet to be shaded with the appropriate colour. Tail tip dark to match colour of pattern. . Underside of tail will be paler.

Desirable: Overall appearance of pearl dusting (glitter) Three shades in the pattern in Marbles.

Tarnishing of the coat **is undesirable.**

Ears: There may be a light-coloured spot on the back of each ear, known as an ocelli.

Eye Rims & Lips: Outlined in the appropriate dark colour

Nose Leather: Brick red, outlined with the appropriate dark colour.

Pads: Dark brown. May have rosy overtones **Eye Colour:** Blue

SEAL SILVER MINK TABBY (BEN 05ShMpTr/Ts)

Coat: Body colour ranges from ivory to light tan. Tabby pattern ranging from cold bitter chocolate to brown. The points should not be significantly darker than the body markings and barely noticeable in adults. Ivory or cream whisker pads and chin desirable. Tail tip dark brownish-black. Underside of the base of the tail silver white. Ears, nose bridge, and extremities greyish brown with lighter thumbprint in centre of ear.

Nose leather: Brick red. **Paw pads:** Black/ Dark brown with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Aqua (varies from blue-green to turquoise).

SEAL SILVER SEPIA TABBY (BEN 05ShSeTr/Ts)

Coat: Body colour ranges from ivory to medium tan. Tabby pattern cold brown. Points will be slightly darker than body colour in kittens, but should be barely noticeable in adults. Ivory or creamy white whisker pads and chin desirable. Tail tip dark brownish black. Underside of the base of the tail silver white. Seal colouring will be colder and duller than in the non-silver sepia tabby. Fur on ears can have a silvery grey cast. Ears cold brown with lighter thumbprint in the centre.

Nose leather: Brick red. **Paw pads:** Black/ Dark brown with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Gold to green.

MELANISTIC BENGALS: (Colour Code: m)

Note: Melanistic Bengals have Provisional Status as from 2026.

The term "Melanistic" refers to non-Agouti Bengals.

At first glance, the cat may appear as a solid black, or blue, etc. However, a ghost pattern of darker spots and/or markings may be visible in a certain light. The ghost pattern is more visible in kittens. As adults, cats appear more solid in colour.

BLACK MELANISTIC (BEN05m)

Coat: Jet black, with sound colour throughout coat. Underside and chest will be jet black. No warm tones should be present. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is black. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black.

Nose leather: Black. **Paw pads:** Black. **Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

BLUE MELANISTIC (BEN06m)

Coat: An even blue, ranging from blue grey to deep slate grey. Underside and

chest will be the same as body colour. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle is blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is blue to slate grey.

Nose leather: Dark blue or pinkish blue. **Paw pads:** Dark blue or pinkish blue. **Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

SEAL POINT MELANISTIC: (BEN05Ptm)

Coat: Body colour ranges from ivory to creamy beige to tan, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings on the body will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from warm seal brown to brownish-black and ghost markings may be visible on the points.

Nose leather: Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Paw pads:** Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Eye colour:** Blue.

BLUE POINT MELANISTIC: (BEN06Ptm)

Coat: Body colour ranges from ivory to creamy blue to soft blue-grey, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings on the body will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from warm blue to slate blue and ghost markings may be visible on the points.

Nose leather: Blue or pinkish blue. **Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Blue.

SEAL MINK MELANISTIC: (BEN05Mpm)

Coat: Ground colour is tan to a warm medium brown, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from dark chocolate to sable brown. **Points should eventually be barely noticeable in adults.**

Nose leather: Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Paw pads:** Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Eye colour:** Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

BLUE MINK MELANISTIC (BEN06Mpm)

Coat: Ground colour is blue to a warm medium blue, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Point colour ranges from dark warm blue to dark slate blue. **Points should eventually be barely noticeable in adults.**

Nose leather: Slate blue. **Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

SEAL SEPIA MELANISTIC (BEN05Sem)

Coat: Ground colour is rich, warm, sable brown, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Points will be slightly darker than body colour in kittens.

Nose leather: Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Paw pads:** Dark brown. May have rosy overtones. **Eye colour:** Green or Gold.

BLUE SEPIA MELANISTIC (BEN06Sem):

Coat: Ground colour is rich, warm blue, with chest and belly a lighter shade. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Points will be slightly darker than body

colour in kittens. **Nose leather:** Blue. **Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Green or Gold.

SMOKE

Note: Smoke Bengals have Provisional Status as from 2026.

The smoke Bengal has ghost tabby markings with a horizontal flow to their alignment. All Smokes have a silver undercoat. Smokes can be Rosetted/Spotted, Marble, Sepia, Mink or Snow.

BLACK SMOKE (BEN05Smm):

Coat: Black with a silvery white undercoat. Chest and belly may appear grey, shading down to silvery white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temple, and muzzle is smoky grey. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is black.

Nose leather: Black. **Paw pads:** Black. **Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

BLUE SMOKE (BEN06Smm)

Coat: Medium to slate blue with a bluish white undercoat. Chest and belly lighter blue shading down to bluish white at the roots. Markings will be faint to ghost like. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is smoky blue. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dark blue to slate grey.

Nose leather: Dark blue. **Paw pads:** Dark blue to slate grey. **Eye colour:** Green, gold, or hazel.

SEAL SMOKE POINT (BEN05SmPtm)

Coat: Body colour is pale fawn to creamy beige, with a silver undercoat. Point colour will not be dense due to the silver roots. Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings on the body will be faint to ghost like and ghost markings may be visible on the points.

Nose leather: Brownish-black. **Paw pads:** Brownish black, with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Blue.

BLUE SMOKE POINT (BEN06SmPtm)

Coat: Body colour is pale cream to creamy blue, with a silver undercoat. Point colour will not be dense due to the silver roots. Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will on the body be faint to ghost like and ghost markings may be visible on the points.

Nose leather: Blue. **Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

Eye colour: Blue.

SEAL MINK SMOKE (BEN05MpSmm)

Coat: Ground colour is cold light brown, with a silver undercoat. **Points**

should eventually be barely noticeable in adults. Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

Nose leather: Brownish-black. **Paw pads:** Brownish-black, with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

BLUE MINK SMOKE (BEN06MpSmm)

Coat: Ground colour is greyish light blue, with a silver undercoat. **Points should eventually be barely noticeable in adults.** Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent in a fully mature cat but should be detectable on and between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint to ghost like.

Nose leather: Blue. **Paw pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

Eye colour: Aqua, varies from blue-green to turquoise.

SEAL SEPIA SMOKE (BEN05SeSmm)

Coat: Ground colour is a cold greyish, smoky, sable brown, with a silver undercoat. **Points should be barely noticeable in adults.** Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like.

Nose leather: Brownish-black. **Paw Pad:** Brownish-black with rosy undertones. **Eye colour:** Green or gold.

BLUE SEPIA SMOKE (BEN06SeSmm):

Coat: Ground colour is greyish, smoky blue, with a silver undercoat. **Points should be barely noticeable in adults.** Where fur is long enough to part, silver roots will be seen. White roots are most apparent on a fully mature cat, but should be detectable on, or between kittens' toes. Markings will be faint, and ghost like.

Nose leather: Blue. **Paw Pads:** Slate blue with rosy undertones.

Eye colour: Green or gold.

AOV COLOURS IN BENGALS

The following colours may appear in the Rosetted/Spotted, and Marble Patterns, as well as in Pointed, Mink and Sepia versions:

CHOCOLATE: Ground colour is a rich warm chocolate- beige, with undersides and chest being lighter. Markings are chocolate to dark chocolate. Colour around the eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dark chocolate.

Nose leather: Pinkish Chocolate. **Paw pads:** Pinkish Chocolate.

Eye colour: Any colour other than blue.

CINNAMON: Ground colour is a warm honey cinnamon, with undersides and chest being a lighter warm beige colour. Markings are a rich cinnamon

brown. Colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is cinnamon brown.

Nose leather: Pinkish to cinnamon brown. **Paw pads:** pinkish to cinnamon brown. **Eye colour:** Any colour other than blue.

LILAC: Ground colour is pale beige, with undersides and chest warm magnolia. Markings are warm lilac. Colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle are lighter and brighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is pinkish grey.

Nose leather: pinkish grey. **Paw pads:** pinkish grey. **Eye colour:** Any colour other than blue.

FAWN: Ground colour is warm rosy beige, with undersides and chest pale ivory. Markings are warm rosy mushroom. Colour around eyes, temples, and muzzle is lighter than ground colour. Skin pigment around eyes, nose, and lips is dusty rose.

Nose leather: Pinkish Fawn, with no blue or lilac tones. **Paw pads:** Pinkish fawn, with no blue or lilac tones. **Eye colour:** Any colour other than blue.

COLOUR CODES for registration:

- Chocolate 07
- Lilac 08
- Cinnamon 09
- Fawn 10
- Red 12
- Cream 13