

AUSTRALIAN MIST

HEAD	25 Points
Head/Neck	(15)
Ears	(5)
Eye Shape & Set	(5)
BODY	25 Points
Shape/Size	(15)
Tail	(5)
Legs & Feet	(5)
COAT/COLOR	45 Points
Length/Texture	(10)
Color	(15)
Pattern	(15)
Eye Color	(5)
CONDITION	5 Points

General: The Australian Mist is a well-balanced cat of moderate, foreign type, with no tendency to extremes in any characteristic. Both males and females have an open, generous expression. The males may be slightly larger than the females with facial characteristics and musculature more developed. Muscle development, coat and eye color achieve adult expression by 2 years of age. It is sometimes difficult to determine the color of some cats until they reach 1 or 2 years old.

Head:

Shape: Generous proportions and comparatively broad and gently rounded from the front and in profile. **Nose:** Broad, moderately short and of even width. In profile, the nose break is concave below, convex above the line of the eyes, the two parts of the curve being of equal length.

Ears: Moderately large, wide at the base, rounded tips. Set low on the head and tilted slightly forward. **Eyes:** Large and lustrous, upper lid straight, lower curved, wide apart, slanting towards the nose. **Cheeks:** Well-rounded with good width. **Jaws:** Firm, wide at the hinge and with whisker pads. **Chin:** Firm. In profile, good depth and well-developed; whisker pads and tip of nose leather are in the same vertical plane. **Neck:** Of medium length and in proportion to the body.

Body:

Shape/Size: Medium in length, hard and muscular, heavier than it appears; chest broad and round. **Legs:** Proportionately strong, hind legs slightly higher than forelegs. **Feet:** Neat and oval. **Tail:** Long, thick, minimal taper, well-furred.

Coat:

Length/Texture: Short, glossy, dense and resilient. **General Coat Color:** Markings are delicate, though distinct from the paler ground, which provides a misted background. Overall color should be rich and warm, paler on the underbody, with rufus tonings on nose, cheeks, and ears present in even the palest colors. Chocolate, Lilac, Gold and Peach kittens are very much paler than adults, with rufus toning dominating the body markings. Full color is not obtained until 2 years of age. **Pattern:** The markings/patterns described below should be seen despite the diffusing effect of the characteristic agouti misting. The pattern is more apparent when viewed from a distance. **Eye Color:** Clear, delicate shadings of green from chartreuse to aquamarine.

Patterns:

Spotted Pattern: An unbroken line runs back from the corner of the eye to meet a broken line running from the corner of the mouth. Markings on the forehead form an intricate letter "M" and extend as lines over the top of the head to the shoulder region. Several broken/unbroken necklaces on neck and upper chest. Spine lines, broken or unbroken. Body markings are symmetrical spots of any size or shape over sides, flanks and belly. Elongated spots, or banding on the legs permissible. Tail evenly ringed, with a solid tip. Paws may be spotted above, undersides of the pattern color.

Marbled Pattern: The marbling consists of symmetrically placed patches of the darkest color, broken internally with blotches of lighter colors, on a pale ground, Margins between ground color and dark patches may be uneven, but should be clearly delineated. Ground color has uneven margins along the spine.

Head: Dark lines from the corner of the eye, below the eye and below the jaw to meet mid-cheek below the ear. Markings on the forehead form a coronet/scarab. From the coronet/scarab, four parallel lines run over the top of the head and neck.

Body: Shoulder and neck marbled. Sides and flanks marbled. The flow of the pattern to be horizontal, not vertical. Dark spine line from midpoint of the rib cage to base of tail bordered by two bands of lighter color. Belly spotted with at least two rows of rather heavy elliptical spots.

Chest: A series of broken or unbroken necklaces, or scallops, which extend from the shoulder pattern.

Legs: Irregular-shaped banding on the upper legs, incomplete smaller bands and spots on the lower legs and feet. Underside of feet of darkest pattern color, which should extend to the hocks.

Tail: Dark color above, light below. Banding on the upper surface irregular, due to extensions of pale bands from below. Seen from the side, it looks like irregular scalloping. The tails tipped with a broad band of the darkest color.

Colors:

Brown: Seal brown markings against a silvery fawn to old ivory ground. Rufus toning reddish-brown. Nose leather: Brick red outlined in brown. Paw Pads: Brown.

Blue: Bluish-gray markings against a dusty blue to silvery-cream ground. Rufus toning pinkish-cream. Nose leather: Pink outlined in blue. Paw Pads: Blue.

Chocolate: Chocolate markings against a creamy fawn to old ivory ground. Rufus toning reddish-gold. Nose leather: Pinkish orange outlined in chocolate. Paw Pads: Chocolate.

Lilac: Dove gray markings against a delicate mushroom to pinkish-cream ground. Rufus toning pinkish-fawn. Nose Leather: Pale pink outlined in dove gray. Paw pads: Dusty pink.

Gold (Cinnamon): Old gold markings against a rich cream ground. Rufus tonings on ear tips, nose, underside of paws and tail tip, intensify the color to bronze. Nose leather: Pinkish orange outlined in bronze. Paw Pads: Pink.

Peach (Fawn): Pinkish-salmon markings against a pinkish-cream ground. Ear tips, top of head and back brushed with a faint lilac bloom. Rufus tonings salmon pink. Nose leather: Pale pink outlined in salmon pink. Paw Pads: Pink.

OBJECTION: Fine bones. Shallow, long or flat skull. Upright or small ears. Small or round eyes. Roman nose. Pinched muzzle. Whippy or visibly kinked tail. Poor muscle tone. Woolly or sleek coat. Excessive shyness.

WITHHOLD: White toes. Blue, amber or orange eyes. Pattern on flanks obscured by over masking (resulting in lack of definition).