

# American Shorthair

## POINT SCORE

HEAD (including size and shape of eyes, ear ..... shape, and set and structure of nose)	30
BODY (including shape, size, bone, and length of tail)	30
COAT	15
COLOR	20

(Tabby pattern = 10 points; Color = 10 points)

EYE COLOR..... 5

**GENERAL:** the American Shorthair is a true breed of working cat. The conformation should be adapted for this with no part of the anatomy so exaggerated as to foster weakness. The general effect should be that of a strongly built, well balanced, symmetrical cat with conformation indicating power, endurance, and agility.

**SIZE:** medium to large. No sacrifice of quality for the sake of size. Females may be less massive in all respects than males and should be rewarded equally if overall balance is correct.

**PROPORTIONS:** slightly longer than tall. (Height is profile measure from top of shoulder blades to ground. Length is profile measure from tip of breastbone to rear tip of buttocks.) Viewed from side, body can be divided into three equal parts: from tip of breastbone to elbow, from elbow to front of hindleg, and from front of hindleg to rear tip of buttocks. Length of tail is equal to distance from shoulder blades to base of tail.

**HEAD:** large, with full-cheeked face giving the impression of an oblong just slightly longer than wide. Sweet, open expression. Viewed from front, head can be divided in two equal parts; from base of ears to middle of eyes and from middle of eyes to chin tip.

**EARS:** medium size, slightly rounded at tips and not unduly open at base. Distance between ears, measured from lower inner corners, twice distance between eyes.

**FOREHEAD:** viewed in profile, forehead forms smooth, moderately convex continuous curve flowing over top of head into neck. Viewed from front, there is no dome between ears.

**EYES:** large and wide with upper lid shaped like half an almond (cut lengthwise) and lower lid shaped in a fully rounded curve. At least width of one eye between eyes. Outer corners set very slightly higher than inner corners. Bright, clear and alert.

**NOSE:** medium length, same width for entire length. Viewed in profile, gentle concavely curved rise from bridge of nose to forehead.

**MUZZLE:** squared. Definite jowls in mature males.

**JAWS:** strong and long enough to successfully grasp prey. Both level and scissors bites considered equally correct. (In level bite, top and bottom front teeth meet evenly. In scissors bite, inside edge of top front teeth touch outside edge of lower front teeth.)

**CHIN:** firm and well-developed, forming perpendicular line with upper lip.

**NECK:** medium in length, muscular and strong.

**BODY:** solidly built, powerful, and muscular with well-developed shoulders, chest, and hindquarters. Back broad, straight and level. Viewed in profile, slight slope down from hip bone to base of tail. Viewed from above, outer lines of body parallel.

**LEGS:** medium in length and bone, heavily muscled. Viewed from rear, all four legs straight and parallel with paws facing forward.

**PAWS:** firm, full and rounded, with heavy pads. Toes: five in front, four behind.

**TAIL:** medium long, heavy at base, tapering to abrupt blunt end in appearance but with normal tapering final vertebrae.

**COAT:** short, thick, even and hard in texture. Regional and seasonal variation in coat thickness allowed. Coat dense enough to protect

from moisture, cold, and superficial skin injuries.

**PENALIZE:** excessive cobbliness or ranginess. Very short tail.

**DISQUALIFY:** cats showing evidence of hybridization resulting in the colors chocolate, sable, lavender, lilac, or point-restricted (i.e. Siamese-type markings). Any appearance of hybridization with any other breed – including long or fluffy fur, deep nose break, bulging eye set, brow ridge. Kinked or abnormal tail. Locket or button (white spots on colors not specifying same). Incorrect number of toes. Undershot or overshot bite. Tongue persistently protruding. Obesity or emaciation. Any feature so exaggerated as to foster weakness.

## AMERICAN SHORTHAIR COLORS

**WHITE:** pure glistening white. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** deep blue or brilliant gold. Odd-eyed whites shall have one blue and one gold eye with equal color depth.

**BLACK:** dense coal black, sound from roots to tip of fur. Free from any tinge of rust on tips or smoke undercoat. **Nose leather:** black. **Paw pads:** black. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE:** blue, lighter shade preferred, one level tone from nose to tip of tail. Sound to the roots. A sound darker shade is more acceptable than an unsound lighter shade. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** blue. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**RED:** deep, rich, clear, brilliant red; without shading, markings, or ticking. Lips and chin the same color as coat. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** brick red. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CREAM:** one level shade of buff cream without markings. Sound to the roots. Lighter shades preferred. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CHINCHILLA SILVER:** undercoat pure white. Coat on back, flanks, head, and tail sufficiently tipped with black to give the characteristic sparkling silver appearance. Legs may be slightly shaded with tipping. Chin and ear tufts, stomach and chest, pure white. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined with black. **Nose leather:** brick red. **Paw pads:** black. **Eye color:** green.

**SHADED SILVER:** undercoat white with a mantle of black tipping shading down from sides, face, and tail from dark on the ridge to white on the chin, chest, stomach, and under the tail. Legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect to be much darker than a chinchilla. Rims of eyes, lips, and nose outlined with black. **Nose leather:** brick red. **Paw pads:** black. **Eye color:** green.

**SHELL CAMEO (Red Chinchilla):** undercoat white, the coat on back, flanks, head, and tail to be sufficiently tipped with red to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. Face and legs may be very slightly shaded with tipping. Chin, ear tufts, stomach, and chest white. **Nose leather, Rims of eyes, and Paw pads:** rose. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SHADED CAMEO (Red Shaded):** undercoat white with a mantle of red tipping shading down the sides, face, and tail from dark on the ridge to white on the chin, chest, stomach, and under the tail. Legs to be the same tone as face. The general effect to be much redder than the shell cameo. **Nose leather, Rims of eyes, and Paw pads:** rose. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLACK SMOKE:** white undercoat, deeply tipped with black. Cat in repose appears black. In motion the white undercoat is clearly apparent. Points and mask black with narrow band of white at base of hairs next to skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** black. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE SMOKE:** white undercoat, deeply tipped with blue. Cat in repose appears blue. In motion the white undercoat is clearly apparent. Points and mask blue, with narrow band of white at base of hairs next to skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** blue. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CAMEO SMOKE** (Red Smoke): white undercoat, deeply tipped with red. Cat in repose appears red. In motion the white undercoat is clearly apparent. Points and mask red with narrow band of white at base of hairs next to skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. **Nose leather, Rims of eyes, and Paw pads:** rose. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**TORTOISESHELL SMOKE:** white undercoat deeply tipped with black with clearly defined, unbrindled patches of red and cream tipped hairs as in the pattern of the tortoiseshell. Cat in repose appears tortoiseshell. In motion the white undercoat is clearly apparent. Face and ears tortoiseshell pattern with narrow band of white at the base of the hairs next to the skin which may be seen only when fur is parted. White ear tufts. Blaze of red or cream tipping on face is desirable. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE CHINCHILLA SILVER:** undercoat pure white. Coat on back, flanks and tail sufficiently tipped with blue to give the characteristic sparkling silver appearance. Legs may be slightly shaded with tipping. Chin and ear tufts, stomach and chest, pure white. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined with blue. **Nose leather:** old rose. **Paw pads:** blue or old rose. **Eye color:** green.

**BLUE SHADED SILVER:** undercoat white with a mantle of blue tipping shading down from sides, face and tail from dark on the ridge to white on the chin, chest, stomach and under the tail. Legs to be the same tone as the face. The general effect to be much darker than a blue chinchilla. Rims of eyes, lips and nose outlined with blue. **Nose leather:** old rose. **Paw pads:** old rose or blue. **Eye color:** green.

**CREAM SHELL CAMEO** (Cream Chinchilla): undercoat white, the coat on back, flanks, head and tail to be sufficiently tipped with cream to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. Face and legs may be very slightly shaded with tipping. Chin, ear tufts, stomach and legs white: **Nose leather, rims of eyes and paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CREAM SHADED CAMEO** (Cream Shaded): undercoat white with a mantle of cream tipping shading down the sides, face and tail from dark on the ridge to white on the chin, chest, stomach, and under the tail. Legs to be the same tone as face. The general effect to be much more cream than the cream shell cameo. **Nose leather, rims of eyes, and paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE CREAM SMOKE:** white undercoat deeply tipped with blue with clearly defined, unbrindled patches of cream tipped hairs as in the pattern of the blue cream. Cat in repose appears blue cream. In motion, the white is clearly apparent. Face and ears blue cream pattern with narrow band at the base of the hairs next to the skin which may be seen only when the fur is parted. White ear tufts. Blaze of cream tipping on face is desirable. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE SILVER TABBY** (Pewter Tabby): undercoat white, ground color, including lips and chin, pale, clear bluish silver. Markings sound blue. **Nose leather:** blue or old rose trimmed with blue. **Paw pads:** blue. **Eye color:** green or hazel.

**BLUE SILVER PATCHED TABBY** (Pewter Patched Tabby): undercoat white, ground color, including lips and chin, pale, clear bluish silver with classic or mackerel tabby markings of deep blue with patches of cream clearly defined on both body and extremities. A blaze of cream on the face is desirable. **Eye color:** green or hazel.

**CREAM CAMEO TABBY** (Dilute Cameo): undercoat white, ground color off white. Markings cream. **Nose leather and paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SMOKE AND WHITE** (including vans): White with unbrindled portions which have a white undercoat deeply tipped in color (black, blue, red, cream, tortoiseshell, cameo). The cat in repose appears white and black (white & blue, white & red etc.), in motion the white

undercoat may be apparent. As a preferred minimum, the cat should have white feet, legs, undersides, chest and muzzle. An inverted "V" blaze is desirable.

**BLACK SMOKE AND WHITE:** white with portions of black smoke. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE SMOKE AND WHITE:** white with portions of blue smoke. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**TORTOISESHELL SMOKE AND WHITE:** white with portions of tortoiseshell smoke. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SHELL CAMEO AND WHITE:** white with portions of shell cameo. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SHADED CAMEO AND WHITE:** white with portions of shaded cameo. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SMOKE CAMEO AND WHITE:** white with portions of smoke cameo. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CLASSIC TABBY PATTERN:** markings dense, clearly defined, and broad. Legs evenly barred with bracelets coming up to meet the body markings. Tail evenly ringed. Several unbroken necklaces on neck and upper chest, the more the better. Frown marks on forehead form an intricate letter "M." Unbroken line runs back from outer corner of eye. Swirls on cheeks. Vertical lines over back of head extend to shoulder markings which are in the shape of a butterfly with both upper and lower wings distinctly outlined and marked with dots inside outline. Back markings consist of a vertical line down the spine from butterfly to tail with a vertical stripe paralleling it on each side, the three stripes well separated by stripes of the ground color. Large solid blotch on each side to be encircled by one or more unbroken rings. Side markings should be the same on both sides. Double vertical rows of buttons on chest and stomach. Hocks: to be the same color as markings.

**MACKEREL TABBY PATTERN:** markings dense, clearly defined, and all narrow pencilings. Legs evenly barred with narrow bracelets coming up to meet the body markings. Tail barred. Necklaces on neck and chest distinct, like so many chains. Head barred with an "M" on the forehead. Unbroken lines running back from the eyes. Lines running down the head to meet the shoulders. Spine lines run together to form a narrow saddle. Narrow pencilings run around body. Hocks: to be the same color as markings.

**PATCHED TABBY PATTERN:** a patched tabby (torbie) is an established silver, brown, or blue tabby with patches of red and/or cream.

**BROWN PATCHED TABBY:** ground color brilliant coppery brown with classic or mackerel tabby markings of dense black with patches of red and/or cream clearly defined on both body and extremities; a blaze of red and/or cream on face is desirable. Lips and chin the same shade as the rings around the eyes. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE PATCHED TABBY:** ground color, including lips and chin, pale bluish ivory with classic or mackerel tabby markings of very deep blue affording a good contrast with ground color. Patches of cream clearly defined on both body and extremities; a blaze of cream on the face is desirable. Warm fawn overtones or patina over the whole. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**SILVER PATCHED TABBY:** undercoat white, ground color, including lips and chin, pale silver with classic or mackerel tabby markings of dense black with patches of red and/or cream clearly defined on both body and extremities. A blaze of red and/or cream on the face is desirable. **Eye color:** brilliant gold, green or hazel.

**SILVER TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color, including lips and chin, pale, clear silver. Markings dense black. The silver tabby genetically is a shaded cat expressing the agouti pattern, therefore

the undercoat should be white. **Nose leather:** brick red. **Paw pads:** black. **Eye color:** green to hazel; green preferred.

**RED TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color red. Markings deep rich red. Lips and chin to match the color around the eyes. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** brick red. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BROWN TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color brilliant coppery brown. Markings dense black. Lips and chin the same shade as the rings around the eyes. Back of legs black from paw to heel. **Nose leather:** brick red. **Paw pads:** black or brown. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color, including lips and chin, pale bluish ivory. Markings a very deep blue affording a good contrast with ground color. Warm fawn overtones or patina over the whole. **Nose leather:** old rose. **Paw pads:** rose. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CREAM TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color, including lips and chin, very pale cream. Markings of buff or cream sufficiently darker than the ground color to afford good contrast but remaining within the dilute color range. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CAMEO TABBY** (classic, mackerel): ground color off-white. Markings red. The cameo tabby genetically is a shaded cat expressing the agouti pattern, therefore the undercoat should be white. **Nose leather and Paw pads:** rose. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**TABBY AND WHITE** (including vans)\*: white with colored portions, the colored portions conform to the currently established tabby classes; mackerel and classic. As a preferred minimum, the cat should have white feet, legs, undersides, chest and muzzle. An inverted "V" blaze is desirable.

**SILVER TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of silver tabby **Eye color:** brilliant gold, green or hazel.

**SILVER PATCHED TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of silver patched tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold, green or hazel.

**CAMEO TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of cameo tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BROWN TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel) white with portions of brown tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BROWN PATCHED TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of brown patched tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of blue tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE PATCHED TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of blue patched tabby and white. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**RED TABBY AND WHITE:** (classic, mackerel) white with portions of red tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CREAM TABBY AND WHITE** (classic, mackerel): white with portions of cream tabby. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**TORTOISESHELL:** black with patches of red or softly intermingled areas of red on both body and extremities. Presence of several shades of red acceptable. **Nose leather and paw pads:** black and/or brick red. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**CHINCHILLA SHADED TORTOISESHELL** (shell tortoiseshell): undercoat pure white. Coat on back, flanks, head and tail sufficiently tipped with black and well-defined patches of red and/or cream as in the pattern of the tortoiseshell to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. The cat is in appearance a chinchilla silver with patches of red tipping. Blaze of cream or red tipping desirable. **Eye color:** green or brilliant gold.

**SHADED TORTOISESHELL:** undercoat white. Mantle of black tipping and clearly defined patches of red and cream tipped hairs as in the pattern of the tortoiseshell. Blaze of red or cream tipping on face is desirable. **Eye color:** green or brilliant gold.

**DILUTE CHINCHILLA SHADED TORTOISESHELL** (Dilute Shell Tortoiseshell): undercoat pure white. Coat on back, flanks, head and tail sufficiently tipped with blue and well-defined patches of cream as in the pattern of the blue cream to give the characteristic sparkling appearance. The cat is in appearance a dilute chinchilla silver with patches of cream tipping. Blaze of cream tipping desirable. **Eye color:** green or brilliant gold.

**DILUTE SHADED TORTOISESHELL:** undercoat white. Mantle of blue tipping and clearly defined patches of cream tipped hairs as in the pattern of the blue cream. Blaze of cream tipping on face is desirable. **Eye color:** green or brilliant gold.

**CALICO:** white with distinct patches of black and red. White predominant on underparts. Tabby markings are allowed in the red patches. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**DILUTE CALICO:** white with distinct patches of blue and cream. Tabby markings are allowed in the cream patches. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BLUE-CREAM:** blue with patches of cream or softly intermingled areas of cream on both body and extremities. Presence of several shades of cream acceptable. **Nose leather and paw pads:** blue and/or pink. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**BI-COLOR:** white with unbrindled portions of black, white with unbrindled portions of blue, white with unbrindled portions of red, or white with unbrindled portions of cream. **Eye color:** brilliant gold.

**VAN BI-COLOR:** black and white, red and white, blue and white, or cream and white. White cat with color confined to the extremities; head, tail, and legs. One or two small colored patches on body allowable.

**VAN CALICO:** white cat with unbrindled patches of black and red confined to the extremities; head, tail, and legs. One or two small colored patches on body allowable.

**VAN DILUTE CALICO:** white cat with unbrindled patches of blue and cream confined to the extremities; head, tail, and legs. One or two small colored patches on body allowable.

\***VAN** is the term for a cat who is white with the additional colored portions confined to the head, tail and legs. One or two small portions of color on the body are allowable.

*The following information is for reference purposes only and not an official part of the CFA Show Standard.*

### American Shorthair Color Class Numbers

<b>Blue-Eyed White</b> .....	0700	0701
<b>Gold-Eyed White</b> .....	0702	0703
<b>Odd-Eyed White</b> .....	0704	0705
<b>Blue</b> .....	0706	0707
<b>Black</b> .....	0708	0709
<b>Red</b> .....	0710	0711
<b>Cream</b> .....	0714	0715
<b>Chinchilla Silver</b> .....	0730	0731
<b>Shaded Silver</b> .....	0732	0733
<b>Black Smoke</b> .....	0734	0735
<b>Blue Smoke</b> .....	0738	0739
<b>Silver Tabby</b> .....	0736	0737
<b>Silver Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0736M	0737M
<b>Silver Patched Tabby</b> (torbie) .....	--	0785
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		

<b>Blue-Silver Tabby</b> .....	7068	7069
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		
<b>Blue-Silver Patched Tabby</b> .....	--	7037
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		
<b>Red Tabby</b> .....	0740	0741
<b>Red Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0740M	0741M
<b>Brown Tabby</b> .....	0744	0745
<b>Brown Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0744M	0745M
<b>Brown Patched Tabby (torbie)</b> .....	--	0787
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		
<b>Blue Tabby</b> .....	0752	0753
<b>Blue Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0752M	0753M
<b>Blue Patched Tabby (torbie)</b> .....	--	0789
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		
<b>Cream Tabby</b> .....	0754	0755
<b>Cream Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0754M	0755M
<b>Shell Cameo</b> .....	0760	0761
<b>Shaded Cameo</b> .....	0762	0763
<b>Smoke Cameo</b> .....	0764	0765
<b>Tortoiseshell Smoke</b> .....	--	0725
<b>Cameo Tabby</b> .....	0766	0767
<b>Cameo Mackerel Tabby</b> .....	0766M	0767M
<b>Cream Cameo Tabby</b> .....	7066	7067
<i>(classic, mackerel)</i>		
<b>Tabby &amp; White (including Vans)</b> .....	7072	7073
<i>(Silver, Brown, Blue, Red, Cameo, Cream [all tabby colors in either mackerel and classic and, where applicable, patched patterns])</i>		
<b>Smoke &amp; White (including Vans)</b> .....	7024	7025
<i>(Black Smoke &amp; White, Blue Smoke &amp; White, Tortoiseshell Smoke &amp; White, Shell Cameo &amp; White, Shaded Cameo &amp; White, Smoke Cameo &amp; White)</i>		
<b>Dilute Shaded</b> .....	0728	0729
<i>(Blue Chinchilla Silver, Blue Shaded Silver, Cream Shell Cameo, Cream Shaded Cameo, Blue Cream Smoke)</i>		
<b>Bi-Color and Van Bi-Color</b> .....	0770	0771
<i>(Red &amp; White, Blue &amp; White, Cream &amp; White, Black &amp; White)</i>		
<b>Tortoiseshell</b> .....	--	0747
<b>Calico and Van Calico</b> .....	--	0749
<i>(White with Black &amp; Red) or Dilute Calico and Van Dilute Calico (White with Blue &amp; Cream)</i>		
<b>Blue-Cream</b> .....	--	0751
<b>Shaded Parti-Color</b> .....	--	0723
<i>(Chinchilla Tortoiseshell, Shaded Tortoiseshell, Dilute Chinchilla Tortoiseshell, Dilute Shaded Tortoiseshell)</i>		
<b>AOV</b> .....	0798	0799

American Shorthair allowable outcross breeds: none.