

## AUSTRALIAN MIST (AUM)

<b>HEAD</b> .....	40 points
Muzzle.....	9
Ears.....	9
Eyes.....	8
Profile.....	5
Shape.....	4
Nose/chin.....	3
Neck.....	2

<b>BODY</b> .....	35 points
Torso.....	10
Boning.....	8
Musculature.....	8
Tail.....	6
Legs/Feet.....	3

<b>COAT/COLOR/PATTERN</b> .....	25 points
Color.....	9
Pattern.....	9
Texture/Length.....	7

**CATEGORY:** Sepia ONLY

**DIVISIONS:** Tabby - Spotted and Marbled ONLY

**COLORS:** Limited to eumelanistic colors ONLY

**PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES:** None.

### HEAD:

**Shape:** Broad modified wedge with gently rounded contours from front to back and from side to side. Rounded cheek bones of good breadth in proportion to the breadth of skull. The junction of the nose, cheeks, and inner corner of the eyes forms a definite depression on either side of the bridge of the nose.

**Eyes:** Medium to large, slanting slightly toward the nose, upper lid nearly straight, lower lid deeply curved, well open, set wide apart. Lustrous color in clear shadings of green ranging from chartreuse to aquamarine. Points equally divided between size, shape, set and color.

**Ears:** Moderately large, wide at the base, rounded tips, set as much on the top as to the side of the head, opening to the front, not upright, but angled slightly to the side, tilted slightly forward.

**Muzzle:** The muzzle is pronounced but not extremely wide. Foreface blunt, nose

leather and chin flanked by well developed whisker pads; all four (chin, nose, and whisker pads) of comparable shape and area, giving the appearance of a four leaf clover. Viewed from the side, all components aligned in the same vertical plane.

**Chin:** Firm, of sufficient depth and width to balance the depth and width of the nose leather.

**Profile:** A concave curve below the line of the eyes and a convex curve above that line flowing into the curve of the forehead, the two parts of the curve being of equal length.

**Nose:** Broad, moderately short and of even width with no distinct nose break.

**Neck:** Curve at back of the skull flows smoothly into a neck of medium length, in proportion to the body.

### BODY:

**Torso:** Medium in length. Chest broad and round.

**Legs/Feet:** Proportionately strong, hind legs slightly higher than forelegs. Feet oval.

**Tail:** Length in balance with the body, thick with minimal taper, well-furred.

**Boning:** Medium

**Musculature:** Hard and muscular, heavier than it appears.

### COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:

**Length:** Short.

**Texture:** Glossy, dense and resilient.

**Color:** Overall color should be rich and warm, paler on the underbody, with rufous toning on nose, cheeks and ears present in even the palest colors. Markings are delicate though distinct from the paler ground color. Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon and fawn kittens are very much paler than adults, with the rufous toning dominating the body markings. Full color is not obtained until two years of age

**Pattern:** The spotted and marbled patterns should be seen despite the diffusing effect of the characteristic misting. Pattern is more apparent when viewed from a distance.

**Spotted:** Body markings symmetrical spots of any size or shape over sides, flanks and belly. Elongated spots or banding on the legs permissible.

**Marbled:** This is a modified 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.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Dr. Truda Straede created and developed the Australian Mists from her initial idea in 1977 to full championship in the Australian registries in 1986. Developed over more than 25 years - the Australian Mists have a very large gene pool derived from 50% European style Burmese, 25% Abyssinian, and 25% Domestic Spotted tabby. Outcrossing to the original breeds is no longer recommended.

The Australian Mist is known for its exceptional temperament! It is a well-balanced gently contoured cat of moderate foreign type, with no tendency to extremes in any of its characteristics. Both males and females have well sculpted facial features creating an open generous expression. The males are usually larger than females, with facial characteristics and musculature more developed. Muscle development, coat texture and eye color achieve adult expression by 2 years of age.

**LOCKETS:** Withhold all awards

**ALLOWANCES:** Lighter coat color in kittens. Mature males that exhibit jowls.

**PENALIZE:** Pinched muzzle; Roman nose; whippy tail.

### WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW):

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

**DISQUALIFY (DQ):** Any malocclusion, wry mouth, overshot or undershot jaw. Visible tail fault. Fixed deviation of the sternum in adults. Abnormal skull structure.

### DEFINITIONS:

**MISTING:** A term referring to an effect whereby the tabby pattern definition is diffused by a combination of the sepia color restriction gene, the relative thickness of the agouti hairs and non-agouti hairs, and the length of banding on the agouti element lending an ethereal appearance.

**OVERMASKING:** An occurrence in tabby patterned cats whereby the pattern color becomes almost uniform over the back and down the sides such that no ticking or pattern is visible.



*Temperament must be unchallenging; any sign of definite challenge shall disqualify. The cat may exhibit fear, seek to flee, or generally complain aloud but may not threaten to harm. In accordance with Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN, the following shall be considered mandatory disqualifications: a cat that bites (216.9), a cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (216.10), adult whole male cats not having two descended testicles (216.11), cats with all or part of the tail missing, except as authorized by a board approved standard (216.12.1), cats with more than five toes on each front foot and four toes on each back foot, unless proved the result of an injury or as authorized by a board approved standard (216.12.2), visible or invisible tail faults if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.4), crossed eyes if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.5), total blindness (216.12.6), markedly smaller size, not in keeping with the breed (216.12.9), and depression of the sternum or unusually small diameter of the rib cage itself (216.12.11.1). See Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN for more comprehensive rules governing penalties and disqualifications.*