

BREED CODE – SBI: BIRMAN

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The Birman is a semi-longhaired strong boned cat. There must be strong definition between colour of points and white of paws and gauntlets.

- Head:** Strongly boned, slightly rounded in the muzzle. Broader than high, forehead slopes well back, is slightly convex in profile with flatter appearance in front of and between ears.
- Jaw:** Strong, cheeks full and well developed.
- Nose:** Medium in length, in proportion to size of head, slightly Roman in shape but not to excess.
- Chin:** Full and strong with a straight bite.
- Ears:** Medium in size set moderately far apart and slightly flared.
- Eyes:** ALMOST round in shape widely spaced but not bold.
- Body:** Of good length, yet muscular and solid. Neck strong and of medium length. Broad chest. Males much more robust than females.
- Legs/Paws:** Strongly boned. Medium in length. Large round paws. Stiff rear legged gait.
- Tail:** Length to just before the shoulders. Bushy, fur slightly oval at tip, flowing in repose but carried thrown backwards with a curl at the tip.
- Coat:** Medium in length, SILKEN IN TEXTURE, with no undercoat. Full ruff around neck slightly curled on belly and fur of such texture that it will not matt.
- Colour:** **HEAD:** Mask (adult) should cover the face to over the eyes but joined to ears by tracings. Chin shaded to match the mask.
LEGS: Leg point colour to go up to just above the elbows on the front and to merge into flanks at the rear. Leg colour lighter inside legs.

GAUNTLETS Front paws white gloved in an even line across the paws at the third joint. Back paws have white gauntlets which cover back paws extending in a line up the back of the legs in the shape of a spearhead, to reach a point just below the middle of the hock. Evenly matched gloves and gauntlets are desirable.

Paw Pads: Pink or pink blotched with the points colour.

EYE COLOUR: Decidedly blue, clear and bright the deeper the better.

FAULTS:

- Strongly Almond shaped eyes
- Areas of white in points other than gloves/gauntlets
- Blotches/spots of colour in gloves or gauntlets
- Lack of width in head
- Small rounded ears

WITHHOLD CHALLENGE:

- Lack of white gloves on any paw
- Lack of gauntlets on back legs
- Crossed eyes
- Kink in tail
- Coloured toes
- White chin spot
- Squint

NB: The white feet are characteristic of the Birman and whilst it is desirable to have them perfect, they should not be given preference over the TYPE of the cat. A cat may be SLIGHTLY imperfect in gloves and gauntlets yet still be eligible for top awards. While allowances should be made for incomplete point colour in kittens; in adult cats it is desirable to have even points colour.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head	Includes size, shape of eyes, ear shape and set	25
Body	Includes shape, size, bone and length of tail.	25
Coat	Coat/Condition	10
	Gloves/Gauntlets	10
Colour	Points 10 Body colour 10	20
Eye Colour		10
	Total	100

COLOUR NOTES ON CAMELPOINT AND APRICOTPOINT

Caramel is produced by the action of one or two dominant dilute modifier genes (Dm) on blue, lilac or fawn. The Dm gene is carried by seal, chocolate, red and cinnamon and can be passed along unnoticed, therefore, for many generations, and can appear when mated with a dilute, the dilute needs to be present on both sides.

Points colour is dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), through to a warmer, lighter brownish blue/grey for lilac and fawn based, with a soft metallic sheen particularly on the hocks which is more noticeable with maturity.

In the older cats there is a slightly yellowish tinge to the brown/grey colour. Overall the colour has a warm tone appearance.

Apricot is produced by the action of one or two dominant dilute modifier genes (Dm) on **cream** which can be blue, lilac or fawn based. The Dm gene is carried by seal, chocolate, red and cinnamon and can be passed along unnoticed, therefore, for many generations, and can appear when mated with a dilute, the dilute needs to be present on both sides.

Points colour is a vibrant Salmon tone, (like a ripe Apricot) through to a lighter warmer coral tone for lilac and fawn based, with a soft powdery metallic sheen particularly on the hocks which is more noticeable with maturity.

In the older cats there is a slightly yellowish tinge to the brown/grey colour. Overall the colour has a clean Salmon tone appearance.

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COLOUR CHARTS

In the following Colour Standards for all Birman:

The paws are white gloved giving the characteristic look of the Birman cat.

PAW PADS: Pink or pink blotched with the points colour **EYE COLOUR:** Blue, clear and bright, the deeper the better.

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose Leather:
SBI	Sealpoint	Cream, shading gently into pale fawn on the back. The beige of the coat is slightly golden.	Dark seal brown	Dark brown
SBI A	Bluepoint	Glacial white, shading gently into grey-blue on back, the same cold tone as the points.	Grey-blue	Blue
SBI B	Chocolatepoint	Ivory all over, shading, if at all, to the colour of the points.	Very light chocolate ranging to darker chocolate shades	Chocolate to mushroom pink
SBI C	Lilacpoint	Off-white (magnolia), shading, if at all, to the colour of the points.	Lilac, mushroom pink	Faded Lilac
SBI D	Redpoint	White, shading, if at all to apricot on the back. The body colour should be free of barring.	Ranging from apricot to red	Pink
SBI G	Creampoint	White, shading, if any, gradually into the colour of the points. The body should be free of barring.	Rich devon cream to a pale sane	Pink
SBI K	Caramelpoint	Off-white. Shading, if any, gently in dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), to tone with the points.	Dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), with a soft metallic sheen	Lavender or pinkish grey
SBI k/G	Apricotpoint	Warm creamy white. Tabby shading, if any, with a powdery cream cast, to tone with the points.	Clear salmon tone with a soft powdery metallic sheen	Pink

TORTIEPOINT

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose Leather:
SBI E	Seal Tortiepoint	Pale cream, shading if any gradually to a warmer tone. The body colour should be free of barring.	To be red, lighter red and seal evenly distributed on all points – however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit	Plain or blotched, brown or pink
SBI E/A	Blue Tortiepoint	White, shading, gradually into the points colour. The body colour should be free of barring.	To be blue and cream evenly distributed on all points, patching allowable – however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit	Plain or blotched, blue or pink
SBI E/B	Chocolate Tortiepoint	Ivory, shading, if any, to pale chocolate/pale red on back and sides. The body colour should be free of barring.	To be chocolate, red and lighter red evenly distributed on all points, patching allowable – however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit	Plain or blotched Chocolate to mushroom pink
SBI E/C	Lilac Tortiepoint	Off white (magnolia), shading, if any, gradually to pale lilac/pale cream on back and sides. The body colour should be free of barring.	To be lilac/mushroom pink and shades of cream evenly distributed on all points, patching allowable – however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit	Plain or blotched, pinkish/faded lilac and/or pink
SBI E/K	Caramel Tortiepoint	Off-white. Shading, if any, gently in dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue based), to tone with the points.	Dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), and apricot evenly distributed on all points, with a soft metallic sheen. However, lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit	Plain, or blotched, with pinkish grey and pink

TABBY POINT

PATTERN: There should be clearly defined “M” marking on the forehead, light coloured ‘spectacle’ markings round the eyes with spotted whisker pads. Ears solid with no stripes. Clear ‘thumb marks’ which are less apparent in dilute colours (and mottled in the Tortie Tabby Point Birman). The legs should have clearly defined, varied sized broken stripes and/or rings with solid markings on the back of the hind legs above the gauntlets. The tail should have many clearly defined rings, in varied sizes ending in a solid coloured tip. Any silver brindling on body of the non silver colours to be a serious fault.

NOTES:

1. The nose leather should be outlined in pigment or to tone with the points.
2. Markings in kittens are less well defined.
3. A fully ringed tail is desirable but a solid top-tail, ringed on the underside, is not a fault.
4. Pale body coat is desirable, preferably free from body markings, however, body shading of light ghost striping toning with points is acceptable.

The following colours show tabby markings, although they are more diffused in the dilute colours.

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI F	Seal Tabbypoint	As for SBI	Seal brown markings on a pale brown agouti background	Dark brown
SBI F/A	Blue Tabbypoint	As for SBI A	Blue-grey markings on a light beige agouti background	Blue
SBI F/B	Chocolate Tabbypoint	As for SBI B	Chocolate markings on a light bronze agouti background	Chocolate with pinkish tinge
SBI F/C	Lilac Tabbypoint	As for SBI C	Mushroom-pink markings on pale beige agouti background	Faded lilac
SBI F/D	Red Tabbypoint	As for SBI D	Rich red markings on a light apricot background	Pink. ‘Freckles’ may occur on nose, lips, eyelids and ears. Slight freckling in a

				mature cat should not be penalised.
SBI F/G	Cream Tabbypoint	As for SBI G	Buff cream to a pale sand markings on a paler cream agouti background	Pink. 'Freckles' may occur on nose, lips, eyelids and ears. Slight freckling in a mature cat should not be penalised.
SBI F/K	Caramel Tabbypoint	Off-white. Tabby shading if any, gently into dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), to tone with the points	Clear dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), tabby markings, with a soft metallic sheen, on a light beige agouti background	Blue/grey
SBI k/FG	Apricot Tabbypoint	Warm creamy white, Tabby shading, if any, with a powdery cream cast, to tone with the points.	Clear Salmon toned tabby markings, with a soft powdery metallic sheen on a light apricot agouti background	Nose ,Eye Rims and Paw Pads: Pink outlined in a darker pigment. Freckles may occur, slight freckling in a mature cat should not be penalised.

TORTIE TABBY POINT

These colours show the normal Tabby pattern which has been overlaid with shades of light and dark red. The extent and distribution of the Tortie areas are not important providing that both elements, Tortie and Tabby, are clearly visible.

NOTES: The nose leather should be mottled pink and pigmented or to tone with the points.

W/HOLDING FAULTS:

1. Solid Points
2. Tortie Point – any one point showing complete absence of red.

Caramel: These colours show the normal Tabby pattern which has been overlaid with shades of dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), and apricot evenly distributed on all points, with a soft metallic sheen. The extent and distribution of the Tortie areas are now important providing both elements, Tortie and Tabby are clearly visible.

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI F/E	Seal Tortie Tabbypoint	As for SBI E	Seal brown markings on a pale brown agouti background, overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark red	Plain or blotched brown or pink.
SBI F/EA	Blue Tortie Tabbypoint	As for SBI E/A	Blue markings on a light beige agouti background, overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark cream	Plain or blotched blue or pink.
SBI F/EK	Caramel Tortie Tabbypoint	As for SBI E/K	These colours show the normal Tabby pattern which has been overlaid with shades of dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), and apricot evenly distributed on all points, with a soft metallic sheen. The extent and distribution of the Tortie areas are not important providing both elements, Tortie and Tabby are clearly visible.	Plain or blotched Blue/grey or pink.

SMOKEPOINT

The undercoat of the points colour of all smokepoints is slightly lighter than the roots of the shaded hairs. Shadowy tabby markings permissible in all colours. Scattered white hairs and rusty or other shading should not be severely penalised in an otherwise good kitten. In all Tortie varieties, type (body confirmation) is deemed more important than distribution of patching. The Smokepoint effect is produced by a silvery undercoat combined with overhair that is tipped in colour with a silver root. There is a great variation in the degree of silver roots and undercoat. The reduction of pigment overall allows the hidden Tabby patterns present in all cats to show in a sort of ghost Tabby pattern in a Smokepoint. This Tabby patterning is to be considered an attractive feature of the Breed and should be preserved.

NB: On Smoke cats the silver white band at the hair base can only be seen when you part the hairs. From the outside a Smoke cat looks like a solid cat. You can see that it is a smoke point when you look at the eye brows which are silvery, the cat is said to have frown markings. To check whether the cat is really a smoke or a solid, part the hairs on the front and on the legs, there must be seen a clear contrast.

KITTENS: Kitten's coats may undergo many changes. Often pigment is lost as moulting approaches; at this time darkening appears at the roots and at times, before maturity there can be three colours on one hair.

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI s	Seal Smokepoint	Cream shading gently into pale fawn on the back	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to seal brown tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Seal Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Dark brown
SBI s/A	Blue Smokepoint	Glacial white, shading gradually into grey-blue on the back, the same cold tone as the points, but of a lighter shade.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to blue tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Blue Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Blue
SBI s/B	Chocolate Smokepoint	Ivory shading gradually if any to chocolate on the back.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to chocolate tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Chocolate Point. At first glance the	Chocolate to mushroom pink

			points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	
SBI s/C	Lilac Smokepoint	Off-white (magnolia) shading if at all, to the colour of the points.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to lilac tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Lilac Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Lilac
SBI s/D	Red Smokepoint	White, shading, if at all to apricot on the back. The body colour should be free of barring.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to red tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Red Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Pink
SBI s/G	Cream Smokepoint	White, shading, if any, gradually into the colour of the points. The body colour should be free of barring.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to cream tipping. In repose the cat appears as a Cream Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Pink
SBI s/K	Caramel Smokepoint	Off-white, shading, if any, gently into dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), tipping with a soft metallic sheen. In repose cat appears as a Caramel Point. At first glance the points colour APPEARS THE SAME but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	Blue/grey or pinkish tinge.
SBI k/G	Apricot Smokepoint	Warm creamy white. Shading, if any, with a powdery cream cast, to tone with the points but of a lighter shade.	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white with a clear Salmon toned tipping with a soft powdery metallic sheen, in repose appears as an Apricotpoint. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one	Pink

			reveals the white undercoat of the smoke.	
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TORTIE SMOKEPOINT

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI s/E	Seal Smoke Tortiepoint	Pale cream, shading, gradually to a warmer tone. The body should be free from barring	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to red, lighter red and seal tipping evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Seal Tortie Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	Plain or blotched, brown or pink
SBI s/EA	Blue Smoke Tortiepoint	White, shading, gradually into the points colour. The body should be free from barring	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to blue and cream tipping evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Blue Tortie Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	Plain or blotched, blue
SBI s/EB	Chocolate Smoke Tortiepoint	Ivory, shading, if any gradually into the points colour. The body should be free from barring	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of creamy white to be chocolate, red and lighter red tipping evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Chocolate Tortie Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	Plain or blotched, chocolate to mushroom pink
SBI	Lilac Smoke	Off White (magnolia), shading, if any	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of	Plain or blotched,

s/EC	Tortiepoint	gradually into the points colour. The body should be free from barring	silvery white to lilac/mushroom pink and shades of cream tipping evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Lilac Tortie Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	lilac or pink
SBI s/EF	Seal Smoke Tortie Tabbypoint	As for SBI E	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to seal brown markings on a pale brown agouti background overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark red tipping, evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Seal Tortie Tabby Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	Plain or blotched, brown or pink.
SBI s/EFA	Blue Smoke Tortie Tabbypoint	As for SBI s/EA	Mask, ears, legs and tail shading from roots of silvery white to blue markings on light beige agouti background overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark cream tipping, evenly distributed on all points. In repose the cat appears as a Blue Tortie Tabby Point. At first glance the points colour appears the same but on opening the coat one reveals the white undercoat of the smoke, however lack of even distribution should not militate against an otherwise outstanding exhibit.	Plain or blotched, blue.

SILVER TABBY POINT

Refer to general description for Tabbypoint SBI mans

The degree of silvering varies. The idea is the silver with the extreme contrast, but variations of the clarity will occur with the silver only being discernable in the ears , leg areas. There must be thumbprints visible by the age of 2 years.

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI s/F	Seal Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI	Dense Seal brown markings on a silver agouti background	Dark brown.
SBI s/FA	Blue Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI A	Blue-grey markings on a silver agouti background	Blue.
SBI s/FB	Chocolate Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI B	Chocolate markings on a silver agouti background	Chocolate with pinkish tinge
SBI s/FC	Lilac Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI C	Mushroom/pink markings on a silver agouti background	Lilac
SBI s/FD	Red Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI D	Rich red markings on a silver agouti background	Pink. Note: 'freckles' may occur on nose, lips, eyelids and ears. Slight freckling in a mature cat should not be penalised.
SBI s/FG	Cream Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI G	Buff cream markings on a paler silvery cream agouti background	Pink. Note: 'freckles' may occur on nose, lips, eyelids and ears. Slight freckling in a mature cat should not be penalised.
SBI s/FK	Caramel Silver Tabbypoint	Off-white. Shading, if any, gently into dark blue/grey, with a brown coat (blue, lilac and fawn based), to tone with the points, but of a lighter shade.	Clear, dark blue/grey, with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), tabby markings with a soft metallic sheen, on a silver agouti background.	Lavender, or Pinkish outlined in pigment or to tone with the points.
SBI	Apricot Silver	Warm creamy white. Tabby shading, if any,	Clear Salmon toned tabby markings,	Pink, outlined in a darker pigment.

s/FKG	Tabbypoint	with a powdery cream cast, to tone with the points.	with a soft powdery metallic sheen, on a silver agouti background.	Freckles may occur, slight freckling in a mature cat should not be penalised.
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SILVER TORTIE TABBY POINT

Refer to general description for Tortie Tabbypoint SBI mans

These colours show the normal Tabby pattern which has been overlaid with shades of light and /or dark red. The extent and distribution of the Tortie areas are not important providing that both elements, Tortie and Tabby, silver are clearly visible.

1. The nose leather should be mottled pink and pigmented to tone with the points.

W/HOLDING FAULTS:

1. Solid Points
2. Tortie Point – any one point showing complete absence of red or lighter red.
3. Lack of thumbprints by age 2 years

NO:	Colour	Body Colour	Point Colour	Nose leather
SBI s/FE	Seal Tortie Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI E	Seal brown markings on a silver agouti background overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark red	Dark Brown mottled with pink.
SBI s/FEA	Blue Tortie Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI E/A	Blue markings on a silver agouti background overlaid and intermingled with shades of light and dark cream	Blue mottled with pink.
SBI s/FEK	Caramel Tortie Silver Tabbypoint	As for SBI K/E	Dark blue/grey with a brown cast (blue, lilac and fawn based), and apricot evenly distributed on all points, with a soft metallic sheen on a silver agouti	Blue/Grey mottled with pink

			background.	
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