

THE HAVANA

In Memory of Phyllis Hill, Hav-a-Hill Cattery

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TIMEHEART HAVANAS

History

- 🐱 Solid brown cats have been mentioned in manuscripts from Thailand dating between the 1300's and 1700's
- 🐱 The encyclopedia Britannica 11th edition mentions a wholly chocolate colored strain of Siamese

History

- 🐱 Early in the 1900's, there were experiments with getting a self colored Siamese
- 🐱 Then in the 1920's the Siamese Cat Club of Britain stated that it regretted to be unable to encourage any but blue-eyed Siamese
- 🐱 It was not until after the wars that breeding self colored brown cats began

History

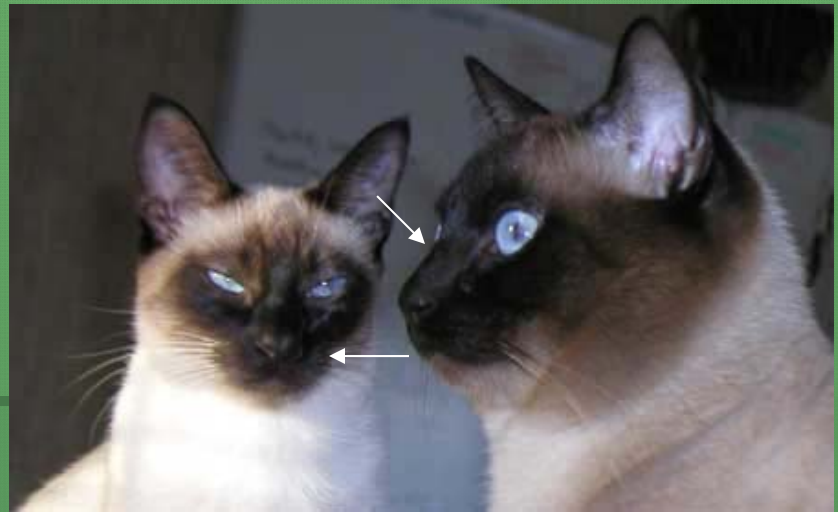
- 🐱 In the 1950's the breeding of a Black DSH "Elmtower Susannah" carrying the chocolate gene and a Seal Point Siamese "Elmtower Bronze Idol" resulted in a kitten
- 🐱 These efforts resulted in the description of the color genetics for self brown and the dilute, lilac
- 🐱 This kitten was the first registered Havana Brown in England

History



- 🐱 “Roofspringer Cattery” and “Laurentide Cattery” were also working to achieve the chocolate point coloring of the entire body.
- 🐱 Also “Praha” and “Crossways Catteries” were using a mix of black DSH carrying the brown recessive gene, a Seal Point or Chocolate Point Siamese and occasionally a Russian Blue

Traditional Siamese



- Notice the stop on the traditional Siamese
- Also the whisker pinch



History

-  Mrs. Elsie Quinn of “Quinn Cattery” in California imported the first Havana Brown in 1956, “Roofspringer Mahogany Quinn”
-  At this point there was a separation of the breed’s progress between the British and the Americans

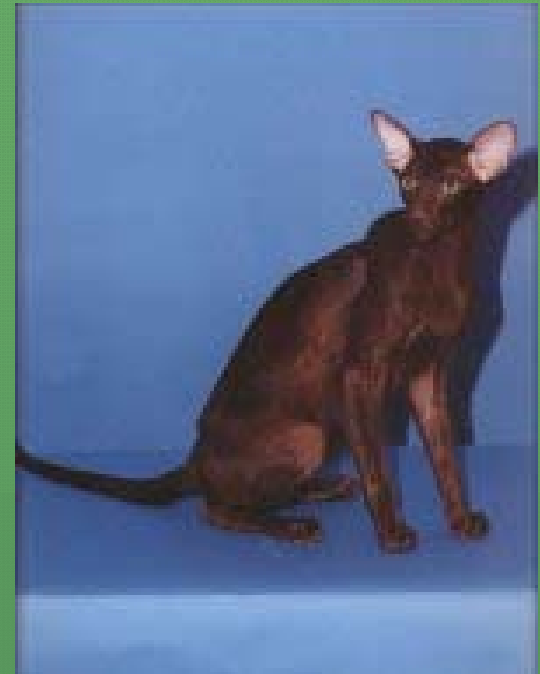
History

-  The British transformed the Havana into the Shorthaired Oriental
-  The US kept the Havana type true to the original type that was imported

British Havana or Chocolate Shorthair Oriental

- This is what the UK Havana looks like



It is the same as the
Oriental Shorthair



Traditional Siamese



The Look

-  The Havana has some very unique points in their conformation
-  These particular traits are unique to the Havana



The Coat Color

- 🐱 There are two colors recognized in TICA: Chocolate and Lilac. (Very rarely will a pointed Havana be born, this trait is not recognized.)
- 🐱 Chocolate is the normal color with varying shades of chocolate from milk to dark chocolate





Coat

- 🐱 Close lying, not tight
- 🐱 The chocolate coat is smoother silkier feeling than the lilac
- 🐱 The lilac coat is normally fuller/plusher feeling more like a very soft fine flannel

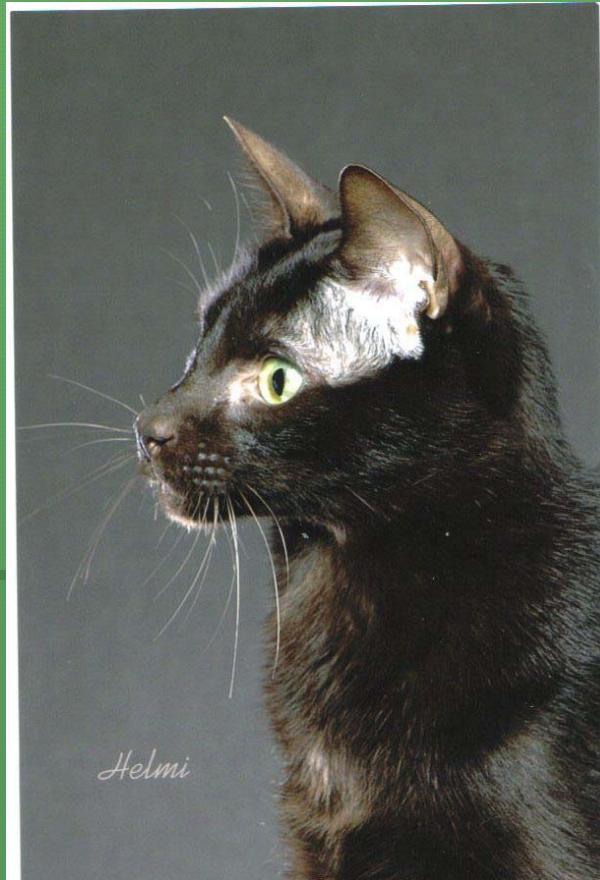
Coat Color

-  Barring or striping is allowed in a kitten coat up to a year
-  Havanas with a lilac in the pedigree may tend to have a lighter (milk) chocolate coat and the barring may take longer to clear out

Chocolate Color

-  Along with the chocolate coat, the whiskers should be brown (only breed to specify the color of the whiskers)
-  Nose leather is brown
-  Paw pads should be a brown tone
-  The same is true with the lilac coat (whiskers should also be lilac)

Chocolate



Lilac Color

- 🐱 Is a frosty gray with a pink tone
- 🐱 Paw pads are a pinkish brown also
- 🐱 Whiskers are lilac

Lilac Coloration



Russian Blue



Russian Blue



Lilac compared to Blue



As you can see
there is a definite
difference in the
color

Nose Stop/Chin

- 🐱 One of the distinct features of the Havana is the nose stop
- 🐱 There must be a definite change of direction from the nose to the forehead
- 🐱 The chin should be even with the nose and the lower part of the chin should be squared off, not sloped off or receding

Nose Stop/Chin

- Notice the change of direction for nose to forehead
- Muzzle is squared off with chin
- Chin does not slope



Head/Muzzle

- 🐱 The head is slightly longer than wide
- 🐱 At the muzzle there is a definite break on either side of very prominent whisker pads/aka a whisker pinch
- 🐱 This gives the muzzle the appearance of a rounded corn cob shoved on the front of the face

Muzzle



The muzzle
is projected
from the face
as if a corn cob
added

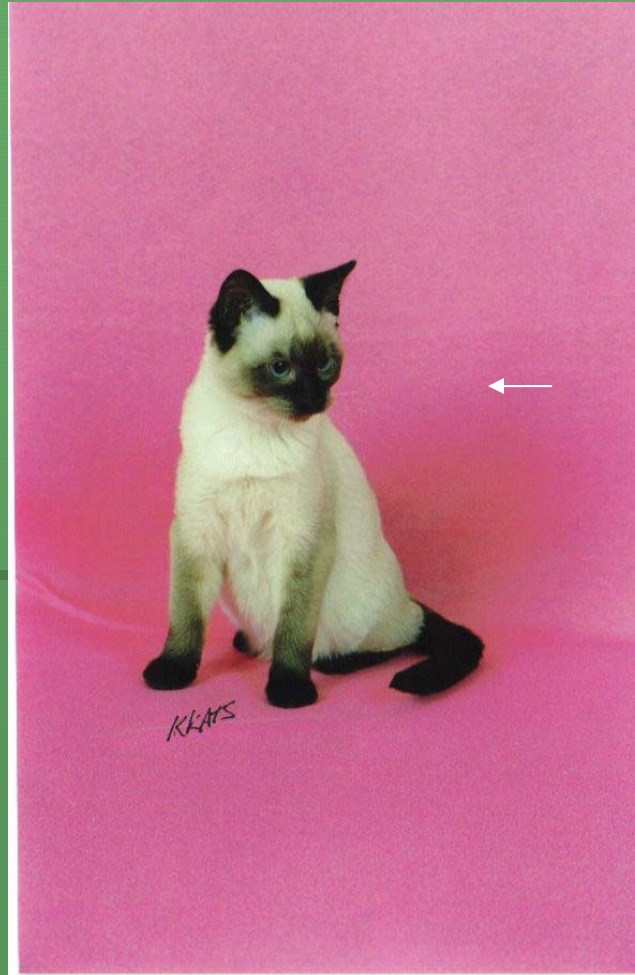
Muzzle/Whisker Pinch/Change of Direction

While there are several things wrong with this head, you can see the muzzle and whisker pinch



Traditional Siamese

- Notice the whisker pinch



Eye Color/Shape

- 🐱 Eye color should be green, and not yellow.
- 🐱 There will be varying shades of green
- 🐱 Eye color develops and deepens also as the kitten ages
- 🐱 Typically the sooner the eye color changes, the greener the color
- 🐱 Eye shape should be oval

Eye Color

This female
has extremely
green eyes



Eye Color/Oval Shape






Wrong eye shape/Rounded

Fairly easy
to see the eye
shape is too
rounded



Ear Shape and Set

-  Ears are large/but not huge and rounded at the top
-  They will come straight up from the sides of the head and do not angle outwards
-  They will be pricked/pointed forward giving the cat an alert, attentive look

Ear Set/Shape

This litter of 12 week old Kittens already have their ear set in place. The ears come up from Beside the head and continue up from the side of the head. They do not angulate or lay out Sideways.



Wrong Ear Set/But Good Muzzle

The ear set
Here leaves a
Little
Something
To be desired
but the muzzle and
Nose stop is very
good.

One can even see the
Indentation where
The nose stop breaks.



Wrong Ear Set/Eye Shape



Neck

- 🐱 There should be a definite neck but not long and slender
- 🐱 The head should not set directly upon the shoulders

Body

- 🐱 Will not be long or tubular, it is a semi foreign type
- 🐱 When the cat is picked up it should feel heavier than it looks with the feel of a muscular physique not a soft cushy feel

Feet/Legs

- 🐱 Solid appearing legs that are muscular when felt
- 🐱 Feet will be oval in shape

Tail

- 🐱 Is long and tapering at the end
- 🐱 It is definitely not rat-like nor short and thick feeling

Balance Is the Key

- 🐱 The Havana should have a balanced look with everything in proportion
- 🐱 When you get past the solid chocolate color of comfort, you should get the idea of underlying abundant energy

Balanced Look



Personality

- 🐱 I have described the Havana as having the personality of a 3 year old child
- 🐱 They expect to be a central part of your life and family
- 🐱 They are very touchy/feely cats and most of the time would rather have you carry them
- 🐱 Another trait is the patty foot-they use their feet to get your attention-they frequently reach out with a foot to touch you to get your attention

Personality

- 🐱 They tend to arrange their homes to their satisfaction
 - 🐱 They follow you around the house, will take a bath with you, watch TV, eat, and definitely take up as much bed space as possible
 - 🐱 They are fairly vocal
-
- 🐱 They are also the magpies or thieves in the house. My jewelry, pens, papers are put up
 - 🐱 They do adapt to situations that are less than the normal

Yes It Really Is A Kangaroo



Family



Feeding

- 🐱 A top quality food is essential for a good coat and the muscular body
- 🐱 I do feed and recommend Royal Canin Hair and Skin and the Persian dry food
- 🐱 They will also eat anything that I can't get eaten before they get to it

Grooming

- 🐱 I do not need to bathe these cats before a show, unless visibly soiled from an OOOOPs!
- 🐱 A clipping of the nails, a swipe of the eyes, and swabbing of the ears are generally all that is necessary

Health Problems



- 🐱 Commonly teeth pose the biggest health issues with the Havana
- 🐱 I am told by other Siamese folks that this is probably a trait passed from the Siamese
- 🐱 Otherwise the Havana is a long lived cat

Handling/Judging

🐱 With a similar attitude to the human 3 year old/the Havana requires firm handling with respect and remember that they are very curious/sometimes they would rather shop around to see what they can get into-steal, chew or push off the table

🐱 And they can resent being put back into the cage without satisfying their nosiness

Handling/Judging

-  The Havana is heavier than they look due to the muscular body-so be ready to lift a little more cat
-  Females weigh about 5-7 pounds/males weigh about 8-10 pounds

Handling/Judging

- 🐱 Squeezing the muzzle to feel the shape and running the fingers up the face is really not necessary-remember the 3year old who does not like their nose wiped?
- 🐱 Look at the profile, then look down from above to see the whisker/muzzle pinch or to observe the corn cob appearance of the muzzle
- 🐱 And then look from the front to observe the muzzle, eye shape/color and ear set

Ebay at home

