

## HOUSEHOLD PET (HH)

Beauty .....	20 points
Personality .....	30 points
Condition .....	50 points
Coat .....	20 points
Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth, and Claws . . . .	15 points
Balance and Proportion	15 points

**COLOR DIVISIONS** All categories, all divisions, all colors.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** The Household Pet comes in all colors and combinations of colors imaginable. Coat lengths may be short and sleek, full and fluffy, any combination of those, or somewhere in between. Tails may be long, short, kinky or non-existent. Eye color may be coordinated with coat color in almost any fashion according to the whims of Mother Nature. All coat and eye colors, and coat and tail lengths shall be acceptable.

The most important consideration for the Household Pet is its overall condition and well-being. The ideal Household Pet is scrupulously clean, well-fed, and altered. He seems to smile with good health and contentment.

**BEAUTY:** These points shall be assigned according to the taste of the individual judge. Many judges notice pleasing markings, colors and patterns. Overall grace and balance are often factors to be considered in the determination of beauty. In the Household Pet, beauty is very definitely in the eye of the beholder.

**PERSONALITY:** The Household Pet should be alert, friendly, and easy to handle. Allowance may be made for some nervousness due to unfamiliarity with shows. If a cat which must be removed from the cage by its handler is then fully amenable to being handled by the judge, no penalty shall be attached.

### **CONDITION:**

Coat: The coat must be absolutely clean and free of any trace of mats or parasites. The cat must be well-groomed. The coat should have a pleasant appearance and feel.

Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth and Claws: Must be clean. Eyes and nose must be free of any matter. Ears should be judged in a cursory way that doesn't disturb the cat, since a majority of rescue cats have had ear problems in the past, intense examination by the judge, tends to hurt or upset the cat. Claws must be clipped.

**BALANCE AND PROPORTION:** The cat should display overall proportion; thus, a small head on a large cat or vice-versa would be somewhat disproportionate. The cat should also be of proper weight for its size. Overweight and underweight shall both be considered undesirable. Muscle tone should be sound. Some allowance may be made for older alters.

**SEXUAL STATUS:** All adult Household Pets (8 months and over) must be altered. Household Pets may not be registered without proof of altering.

## DEFINITION OF LONGHAIR OR SHORSHAIR:

Where there is a question as to the proper class of any entry, the length of fur on the tail shall be the determining factor. Hair of 1-1/2 inches or more and fluffy shall be considered longhair (length may be slightly less in younger kittens). If there is still some question, notice should be paid to such details as long ear and toe tufts.

**APPARENT PUREBRED HOUSEHOLD PETS:** Household Pets of apparent purebred background shall be judged on exactly the same basis as all other Household Pets. They shall be neither penalized nor rewarded solely on the basis of their resemblance to one of the recognized breeds.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** Physical anomalies not allowed by most purebred standards shall be acceptable for the Household Pet. No penalties shall be attached for crossed eyes, kinked tails, extra toes or the like. As many Household Pets are redeemed strays, there shall be no penalties attached to such physical damage as torn or missing ears unless it appears that the problem is an on-going one indicating lack of care.

**KITTENS:** Kittens shall be judged as a single group, without regard to color class; i.e., longhair kittens judged as one group, shorthair kittens judged as one group. Kittens do not receive divisional awards.

**WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS(WW):** No awards should be made to a cat which is obviously dirty or in poor condition.



*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.*