The Egyptian Mau
The Spotted Cat with Gooseberry Green Eyes
The Egyptian Mau - Head

- 20 points overall
  - Slightly rounded wedge without flat planes
  - Medium in length
  - Not full-cheeked
  - Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males
The Egyptian Mau - Muzzle

- 5 points
  - Flows into existing wedge of the head
  - Neither Short, nor pointed
  - Chin should be firm, not receding, or protruding
  - Think clean and elegant
Head - Muzzle
Pinched & Boxy
Head - Muzzle
Pointed & Short
Head - Muzzle
GOOD

- Make sure to feel for muzzle - high cheekbones will deceive the eye
The Egyptian Mau - Profile

- Shows a gentle contour with slight rise from bridge of the nose to the forehead
- Chin should be firm - not weak or protruding
Head - Profile

Good

Too Straight
Head - Profile
Good - slight rise
Head - Nose

– Entire length of nose should be even in width when viewed from the front

– Look for parallel lines.... and don’t be fooled by markings...
Parallel Nose Width

- Even width of nose when viewed from the front
- Not flared like on the right
Head - nose
The Egyptian Mau - Ears

- 5 points

- Medium to large
- Alert and moderately pointed
- Continue the planes of the head
- Broad at base
- Slightly flared with ample width between them
- May be tufted
Head - Ears - proper angle

- Location of proper flare - 90 degree angle from middle of nose
Ears
Too upright - break wedge
Ears

Too small & Too Flared
Ears

Good

Not
The Egyptian Mau - Eyes

- Shape - 5 points. Color 10 points: total 15
  - Large and alert
  - Almond shaped
  - Slight slant toward ears
  - Neither round, nor oriental
  - Color: Gooseberry green (light green)
  - Amber cast is acceptable in cats under 1.5 years of age
Head: Eyes - slant toward outer base of ear
Eyes - Shape
Too Round & Too Oriental
Eyes - Shape
Close set & Small
Eyes - Shape
Good - Large & Alert
The typical Mau head exhibits a “worried expression” - Or, as some have put it - “Did I miss the Bus?” look

All the components of a good head contribute to this specifically the brow line and the parallel nose
The Egyptian Mau - Body: Torso

- 10 points
- Well balanced physically as well as temperamentally
- Medium long and graceful
- Well developed muscular strength
- Well-balanced
- Allowance to be made for muscular necks and shoulders in adult males
Body - Well Developed Muscles
Body - Medium Long & Graceful
Body
Clunky - the Mau should have long graceful legs
The Egyptian Mau - Body:

- Legs & feet - 10 points
  - In proportion to body
  - Dainty feet, slightly oval, almost round in shape
  - Tip-toe appearance when standing upright
  - Five toes in front, four in back
Body - Feet
Small & Dainty & Slightly Clunky
Body
Tippy Toe Stance
The Egyptian Mau - Body: Tail

- 5 points
  - Medium long
  - Thick at base
  - Slight taper
The Egyptian Mau - Pattern

- Tail - markings
  - Dorsal stripe should continue along top of tail to tip
  - Tail heavily banded with a dark tip
Pattern - Tail Medium long, thick at base with slight taper
Dorsal Stripe & Banding
The Egyptian Mau - Coat

- Texture and length: 5 points
  - Hair is Medium in length
  - Lustrous Sheen
  - Silver & bronze: dense and resilient
  - Accommodates two or more bands of ticking
  - Smoke: silky and fine
The Egyptian Mau - Coat

- **Length**
  - Medium is relative
  - The key is ticking - at least with silver and bronze
  - Look for resiliency But it won’t snap like an Aby’s...
  - Don’t expect the spots to go all the way down the hair shaft
  - Look for shine/sheen
The Egyptian Mau - Pattern

- Spine lines...
  - Frown marks form lines between the ears that continue down the back of the neck and onto the spine
  - Spine lines should ideally break into elongated spots along spine
  - Triple spine lines
  - Broken spine line
Spine lines
Unbroken
Spine Lines -
Triple & Broken
The Egyptian Mau - Pattern

- 25 points total

- Randomly spotted

- Variance in size and shape

- Spots can be small or large, oblong or irregularly shaped (arrows, blotches, freckles etc..)

- Haunches and hind legs to be transition of spots and Stripes, breaking into bars on lower leg

- Belly should have vest button spots

- Size doesn’t matter, shape doesn’t matter and they don’t have to match...But they should be distinct
Pattern - Spots  Spots  Spots
Big & Little..... Little.... Medium
Pattern - Spots Spots Spots
Random - from small to big
The Egyptian Mau - pattern

- Genetically the Mau is a spotted tabby

- Theories abound, but current thought is Maus are one of two styles of modified tabbies:
  - Modified Mackerel - spots will be broken, but relatively lined up
  - Modified Classic - spots will be arranged in a seemingly random pattern that from a far may look like a bullseye

- Both are ACCEPTABLE

- Remember, spots can be any size, any shape and in any pattern - they simply must be distinct
Pattern - Spots Spots Spots
Triangles & Bullseyes
Pattern - Spots
The only kind that are not acceptable... (houndstooth)
The Egyptian Mau - Pattern

- **Makeup and jewelry...**
  - **Mascara lines - bar the cheeks**
    - First starts at corner of eye and continues around cheek
    - Second starts at center of cheek and curves upwards
  - **Broken necklaces - One or more**
Pattern - Broken Necklaces
Pattern - Bracelets
Transition to .... and unmatched
Pattern - Mascara Lines
Pattern - Belly Spots
Stripes (NO) & Buttons (YES)
The Egyptian Mau - Pattern

- Cheeks and forehead
- Cheeks barred with mascara lines
- Forehead should have characteristic “M”
Pattern - Characteristic “M”
Color - Eyes

- Gooseberry green
- Not yellow
- Or Orange
- 1.5 years to get it - look for the inner green line
Eyes - color
Yellow
Eye color
On the Line
Eyes - color
Good - Gooseberry GREEN
Eyes - Color
Good - Gooseberry GREEN
Color - Contrast
Poor
Color - Contrast
Good
The Egyptian Mau - Color

- Coat color - Silver: 15 points
  - Pale silver ground color, underside brilliant pale silver
  - Markings charcoal
  - Back of ears grayish pink, tipped in black
  - Nose leather: brick red
  - Paw pads: black
Color - Silver
Tarnish

- Many silvers have tarnish on head
- Some on rear
- Some along spine line
- Some just a smidge along necklace
Color - Silver Light
Color - silver
Charcoal & Dark
Colors - Variations
Silver
The Egyptian Mau - Color

- Coat color - bronze: 15 points
  - Warm coppery brown ground color, lightening to tawny buff on sides
  - Undersides, creamy ivory
  - Markings dark brown-black with a warm coppery undercoat
  - Back of ears tawny-pink, tipped in brown-black
  - Paw pads: Black or dark brown
  - Nose leather: Brick red
Color - Bronze Cold
Color - Bronze
Medium

![Image of a cat with bronze fur]
Color - Bronze Warm
The Egyptian Mau - Color

- **Coat color - Smoke:** 15 points
  - This is a non-agouti cat - no ticking on hairs...
  - Pale silver ground color, with all hairs to be tipped in black.
  - All markings jet black with a white to pale silver undercoat
  - Sufficient contrast against ground color for pattern to visible
  - Nose leather: Black
  - Whiskers: Black
  - Paw pads: Black
Colors - Variations
Smoke
The Egyptian Mau - Handling

- Mau Factoids...
  - They are smart
  - They are willful
  - They are stubborn
  - They love toys
  - They like things on their terms
The Egyptian Mau - Handling

- Do’s and Don’ts
  - Don’t put the Mau in a death grip
  - Don’t challenge a Mau face to face
  - Don’t stick them in front of other cats
  - Don’t let them get too carried away with the toys
  - Don’t stare them directly in the eye
  - Don’t hold them up in the air to look at them
The Egyptian Mau - Handling

- **Do’s and Don’ts**
  - Do use the “moveable box” - they show themselves off beautifully
  - Do use toys - they’ll love you for it
  - Do talk to them - it makes a world of difference
Handling

Let them stand, let them stretch
Handling - keep them secure with at least two on the floor...
Handling
Wake them gently....
A few words can make all the difference!
Handling
Maus aren’t picky - toys, ring decorations, fingernails... They love them all...