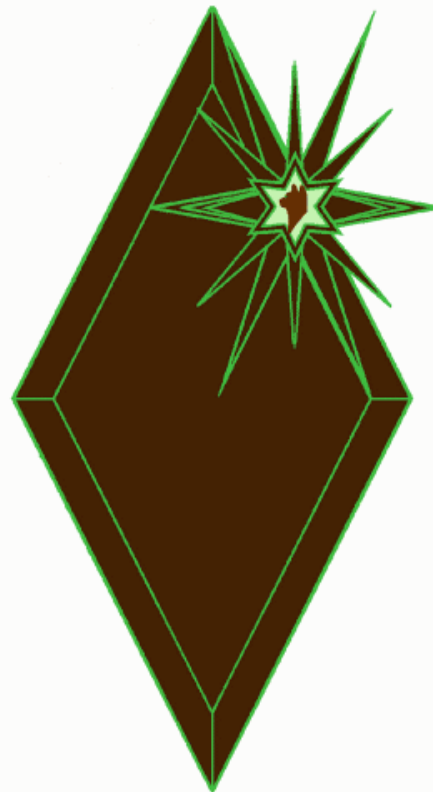


# Havana Brown Breed Presentation

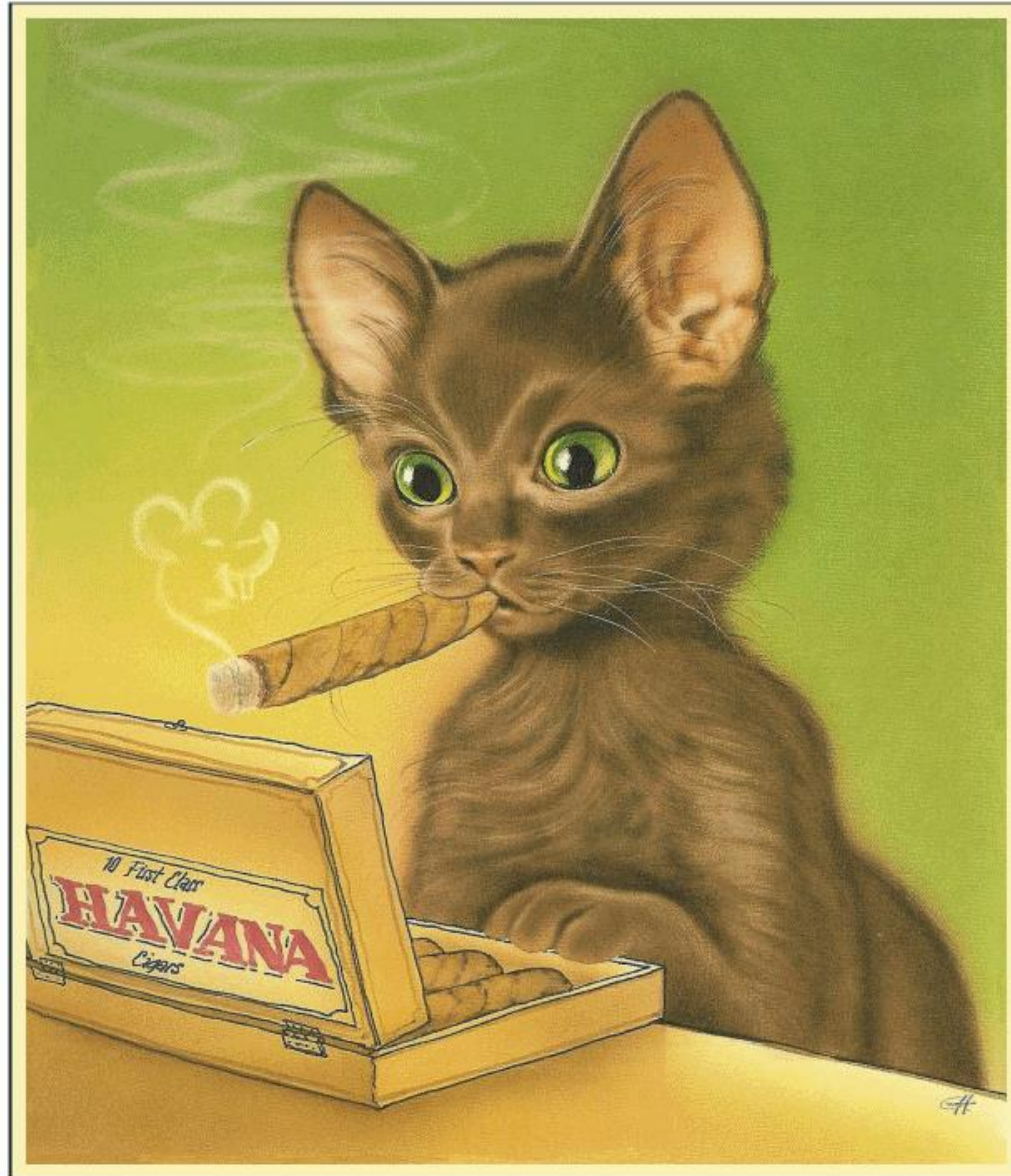
*Presented by  
Havana Brown Breed Council*



*Judges' Workshop  
June 24, 2010*



# Havana Brown ~ A Havana is NOT a cigar.



# **Havana Brown - Introduction**

---

**The Havana Brown was last presented at the Judge's Workshop at the 1991 Annual held in Philadelphia. Since that time, there has been only one change to the Breed Standard which occurred in 1997. A subsection called Profile/Stop was added to the Head for the purpose of placing more emphasis on the Stop.**

**In 1998, the Breed Council submitted a proposal to the Board of Directors for an out cross program. Breeders had become alarmed at the rapidly shrinking diversity of the breed's gene pool. Several geneticists were consulted for advice in putting together an acceptable and workable out cross program.**

## **Havana Brown - Introduction - Continued**

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The initial proposal which was approved by the Breed Council and ratified by the Board of Directors allowed the breeding of a Havana Brown to the following –

(1) an unregistered black or blue domestic shorthair (F-O)  
*or*

(2) certain colors of the Oriental, shorthair only (any color except pointed, cinnamon, or fawn). The following year, the Breed Council requested and was granted permission to also allow out crossing to the Siamese, chocolate point or seal point only. Cats from these first breedings (F-1) are not eligible to be shown. The mating of an (F-1) cat to a Havana Brown produces a litter that is considered to be a Havana Brown (F-2) and can be shown, provided they meet the color standard for the breed. One parent must be a full Havana Brown in all out cross breedings.



## **Havana Brown - Introduction - Continued**

---

Each of the allowable out crosses was assigned individual identifying registration numbers. Breeders can easily determine if an out cross has been used by checking the registration numbers on pedigrees.

Obviously, breeders have the option of choosing whether or not they wish to participate in the out cross program. Some have chosen not to at all; others do both, maintaining separate so-called pure Havana Brown lines in addition to doing out crossing.

## **Havana Brown - Introduction - Continued**

---

**It is important that you be aware that those breeders who choose to use an Oriental or a Siamese as an out cross are extremely careful to choose a specimen that displays features that are not competitive for that breed. Examples would be cats that do not have a smooth wedge shaped head, preferably even have a whisker pinch; cats that don't have a straight profile; or cats exhibiting a less than slinky body type.**

**Several Oriental and Siamese breeders have been very helpful in providing cats for use in the program and we thank them for their generosity and assistance.**

# **Havana Brown - History**

---

**The origins of the Havana Brown are important in your interpretation of the breed standard and, thus, in judging the cat. The Havana Brown is the direct result of experimentation in England in the early 1950's to produce a self-colored brown cat. The British catteries involved bred pointed cats to solid black or, in some cases, blue cats. Elmtower Bronze Idol, the first recorded Havana, was born in 1952. A female, Roofspringer Mahogany Quinn, born July 1, 1956, was the first Havana to be imported by Mrs. Elsie Quinn a breeder in Southern California. Breeders in the US were soon enamored with this unique chocolate brown cat and other imports quickly followed.**

# Havana Brown - History - Continued

---

By closely examining photos of some of the early imports it is evident that their type was a bit more cobby than our present-day Havana Brown. It is also obvious from the photos that these imports displayed the breed's unique head and closely resemble the exhibits that we see on the show bench today.

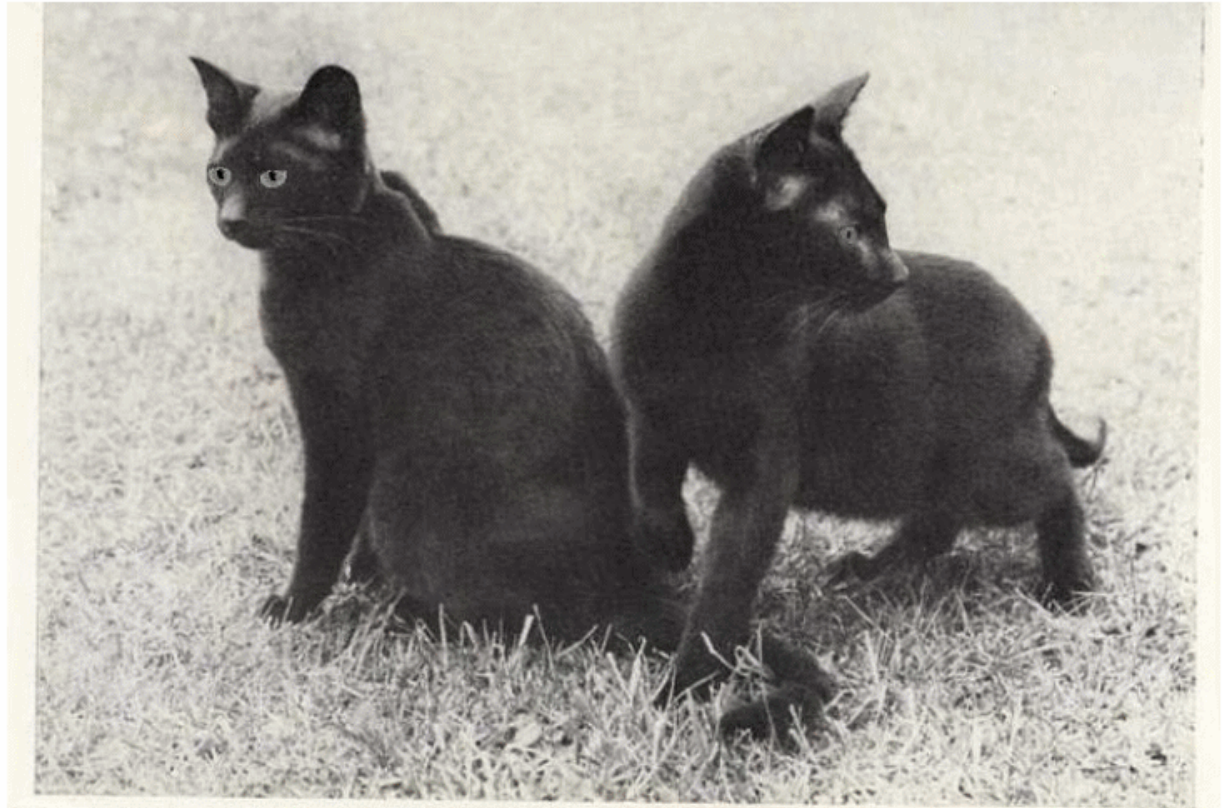


Fig. 14. Chestnut Brown cats (Havanas) bred by Miss Von Ullman. Photo by Sally Anne Thompson.



# Havana Brown - History - Continued

*Loby's Papa*

✓

*Mom when they were little.*



*Gordon Laughner, Los Angeles*

Following the appearance of the little Havana kitten on our November issue front cover, we have received this fine picture from America which provides proof that the English exports ROOFSPRINGER MAHOGANY (female bred by Miss E. von Ullmann) and BROWN PILGRIM (male bred by Mrs. Hargreaves) are fit and happy in their new homes. Mahogany (in the bowl) was imported and is owned by Mrs. Elsie L. Quinn, of El Monte, California. Brown Pilgrim belongs to Mrs. J. L. Peters, also of El Monte. The kittens were shown at the California Cat Show in Hollywood last month where they created a lot of interest among fanciers and the public as the first representatives of a new variety in the United States.

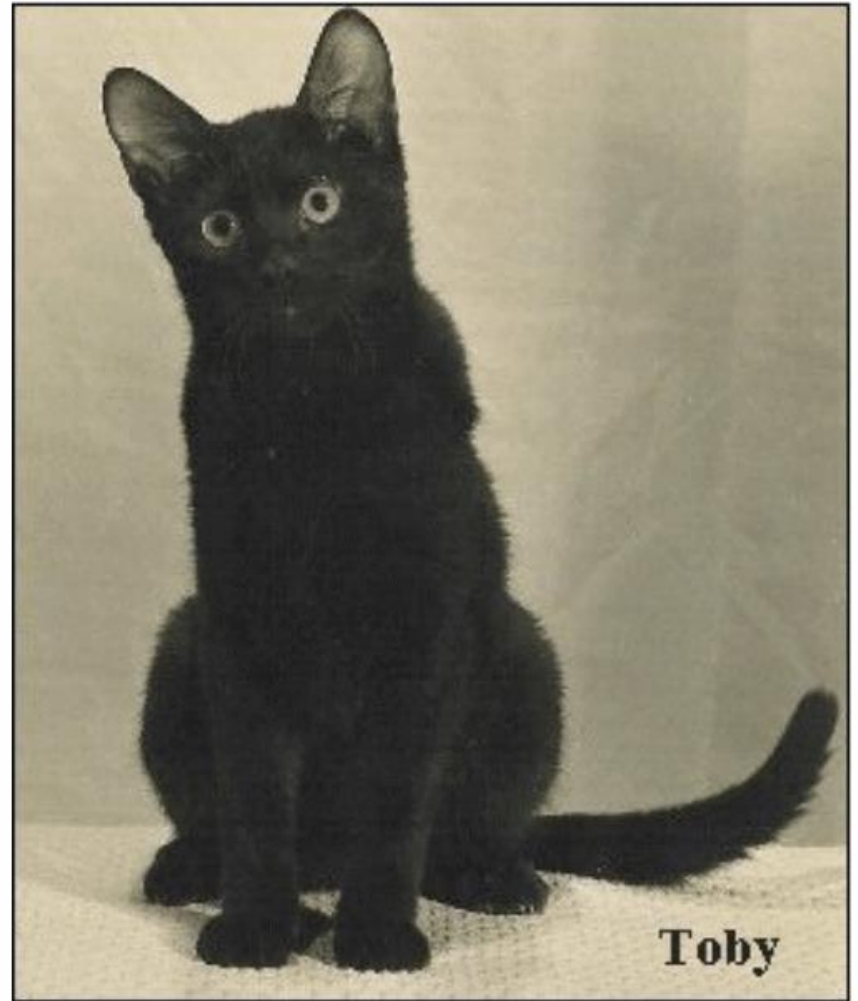
*This picture was in the English Cat mag. in 1959. Mrs Quinn is the Lady I got Loby from.*

# Havana Brown - History - Continued

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**Roofspringer Marhuana**



**Toby**

## **Havana Brown - History - Continued**

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**If you can, try to visualize that the Havana Brown represents the body and head configuration of the Siamese or Foreign cat of the 1950's. The American breeders chose to retain this type and named the breed "Havana Brown". The English breeders went a different direction choosing to breed a more refined, elegant cat that closely resembles our Chestnut Oriental, eventually naming their breed Havana.**

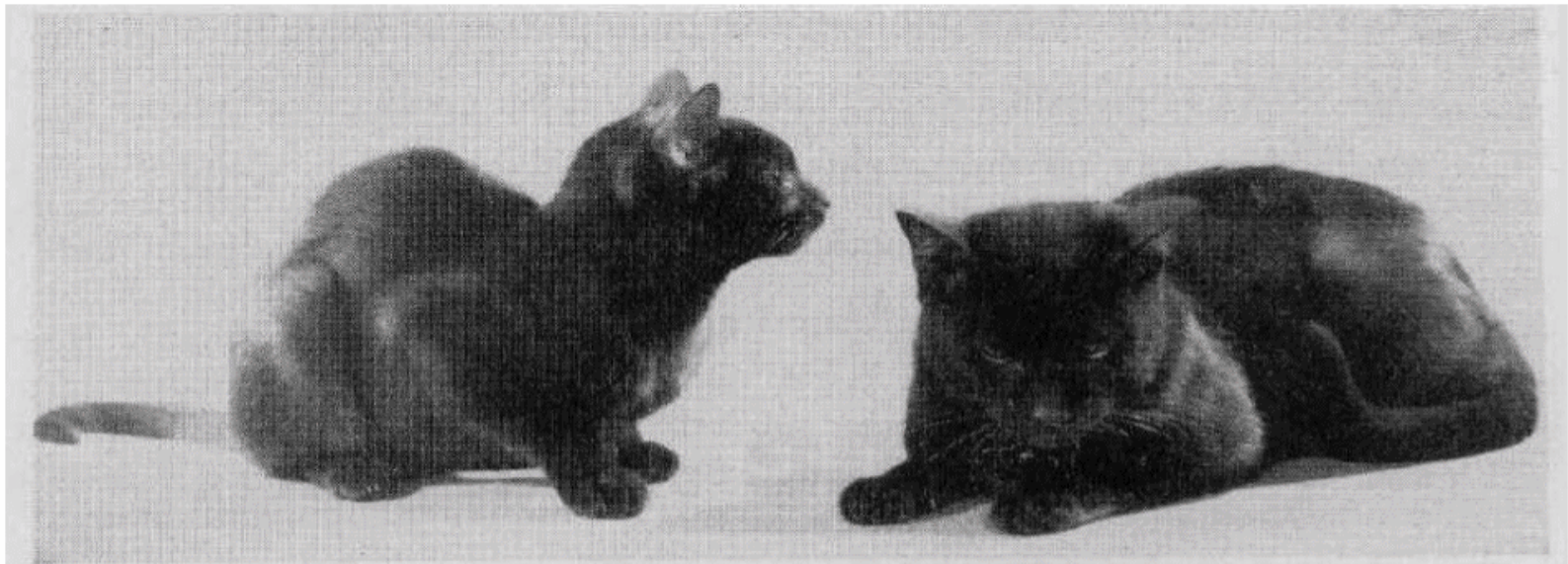
**The first Havana Browns were registered and shown in the United Cat Fanciers (UCF) in 1959. CFA accepted the Havana Brown for Championship in 1964. Reportedly, in the early years of the breed in the US, it was acceptable to out cross to Siamese and Russian Blue. All out crossing was cut off in 1974.**



## **Havana Brown - History - Continued**

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**It is our hope that you will learn from this short history and the following presentation that although the Havana Brown has a Siamese ancestor and may share some of the same history as the Oriental, please recognize that A GOOD HAVANA BROWN IS UNIQUE IN ITS OWN RIGHT.**



**Havanas in America. On the right QUINN'S MURIELLA (by Laurentide Brown Pilgrim ex Roofspringer Mahogany) with NORWOOD'S MONA (same sire ex Quinn's Autumn Leaf). Both cats belong to Mrs. Dallas Sidlo, of San Pedro, Claifornia. At the quadruple show of the Western Intra Valley Cat Clubs, Muriella received Best Kitten Opposite Sex award.**



# Havana Brown - Standard

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*Preston*

©2010 PrestonSmithPhoto.com

# Havana Brown - Standard - Point Chart

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Two of the most important features,  
are the Head and Color.

# Havana Brown - Breakdown of Points

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## HAVANA BROWN POINT SCORE

### HEAD (33)

Shape.....	8
Profile/Stop.....	8
Muzzle.....	8
Chin.....	4
Ear.....	5

### EYES (10)

Shape & Size.....	5
Color.....	5

### COLOR (22)

Coat Color.....	20
Paw Pads, Nose Leather & Whiskers....	2

COAT.....10

BODY AND NECK.....15

LEGS AND FEET.....5

TAIL.....5

# Havana Brown - General

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# Havana Brown - General - Continued

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The overall impression of the ideal Havana Brown is a cat of medium size with a rich, warm solid brown coat and good muscle tone. Due to its distinctive muzzle shape, coat color, brilliant and expressive green eyes and large forward tilted ears, it is comparable to no other breed.

# **Havana Brown - Head**

---

## **Head – 33 points – Includes:**

**Shape** 8 points

**Profile/Stop** 8 points

**Muzzle** 8 points

**Chin** 4 points

**Ears** 5 points

## Havana Brown - Head - Continued

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# **Havana Brown - Head - Continued**

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## **DESCRIPTIONS OF THE HEAD**

- **Havana Brown head is unlike any other breed.**
- **Muzzle appears to have been crafted separately from the head and then attached in a gestational miracle.**
- **Corn cob stuck on an orange.**
- **Head is shaped like a light bulb.**
- **Muzzle was stuck in a Coke bottle.**
- **They all attempt to describe the same thing; the juncture of the muzzle and the head is crystal clear in a good example of the breed.**



## Havana Brown - Head - Continued

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# **Havana Brown - Head - Shape**

---

## **Shape – 8 points**

- **Viewed from above, head is slightly longer than wide.**
- **Narrowing to a rounded muzzle.**
- **Pronounced break on both sides behind whisker pads.**
- **The somewhat narrow muzzle and whisker break are distinctive characteristics of the breed and must be evident in the typical specimen.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Shape - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Head - Shape - Continued**

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- **The head of the Havana Brown cannot be judged by only looking at the profile.**
- **Nor can it be judged by only a front view.**
- **Both views must be combined to fully evaluate the head and muzzle.**
- **Front view provides the best perspective on the width of the muzzle compared to the head and definition of the whisker break.**



# Havana Brown - Head - Shape - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Head - Shape - Continued**

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**The Havana Brown Head from the Front.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Shape - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop**

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### **Profile/Stop – 8 points**

- **Viewed in profile, distinct stop at the eyes.**
- **End of muzzle appears almost square.**
- **This illusion is heightened by well-developed chin.**
- **Profile outline is more square than round.**
- **Ideally, tip of nose and chin form an almost perpendicular line.**



# Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued**

---

- **Allowance to be made for somewhat broader heads and stud jowls in adult males.**
- **Allow for sparse hair on chin, directly below lower lip.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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# Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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Profile view of a proper stop.



# Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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## Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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- Profile view is critical for the evaluation of the stop and chin.
- Standard refers to “distinct stop at the eyes”.
- Distinct **DOES NOT** mean 90 degrees.
- It does, however, imply something **MUCH MORE** than a minor deviation from a straight Siamese or Oriental profile.

# Havana Brown - Head - Profile/Stop - Continued

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**Poor stop.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Muzzle

---

## Muzzle – 8 points

- In general, a longer muzzle is preferred but not at the expense of definition.
- A muzzle that is too long will diminish the stop, erode the chin and compromise the whisker break. An overly long muzzle will go hand in hand with a head that is too narrow.



# Havana Brown - Head - Muzzle - Continued

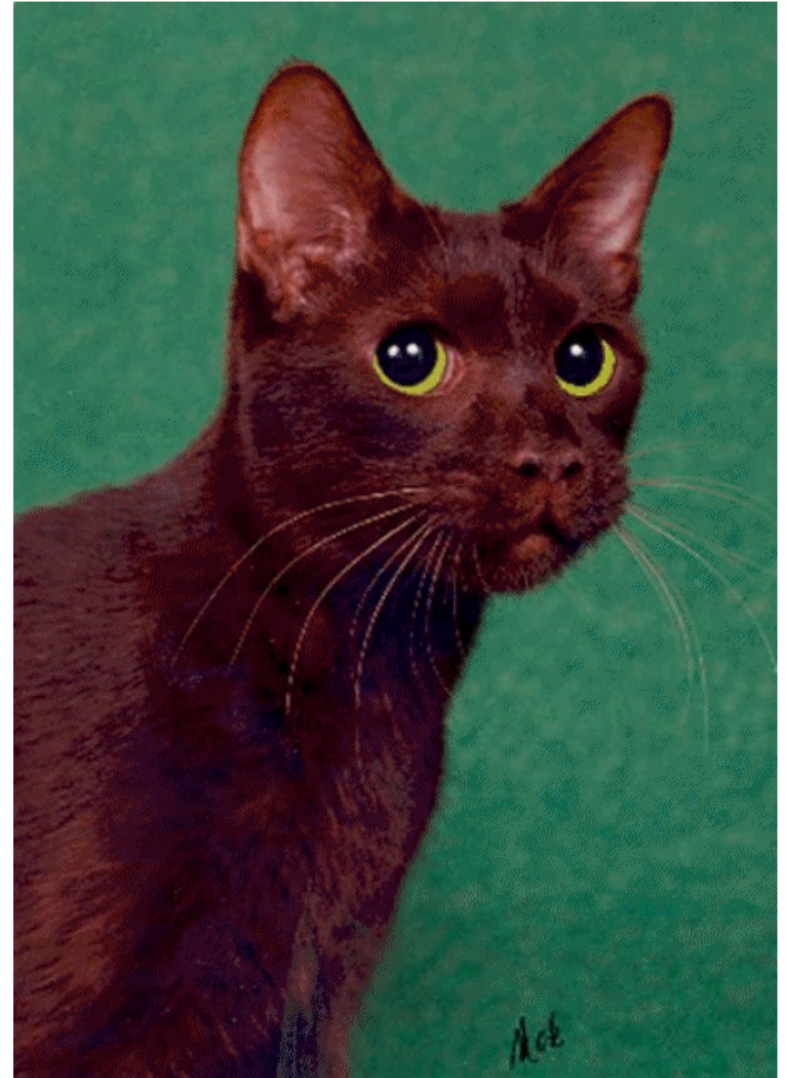
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# Havana Brown - Head - Muzzle - Continued

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A good HAVANA BROWN head will always provide the judge with a clear line of demarcation where the muzzle stops and the rest of the head begins.



# Havana Brown - Head - Muzzle - Continued

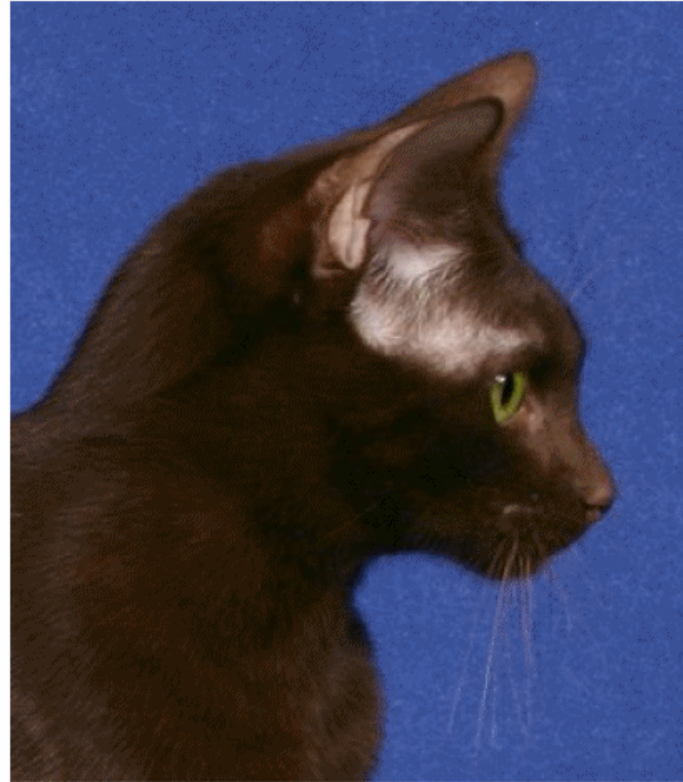
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# Havana Brown - Head - Chin

---

## Chin – 4 points



**Chin should be strong but not jutting.**



# Havana Brown - Head - Chin - Continued

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**Poor chin.**

# **Havana Brown - Head - Ears**

---

## **Ears – 5 points**

- **Large, rounded at the tips.**
- **Cupped at the base.**
- **Little hair inside or outside.**
- **Ears are wide set but not flaring.**
- **Tilted forward, giving the cat an alert appearance.**
- **Outer edge of the ear is almost vertical. Outer edges DO NOT suggest any sort of wedge or triangular shape in the front view of the head.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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**Profile views showing ear tilt.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

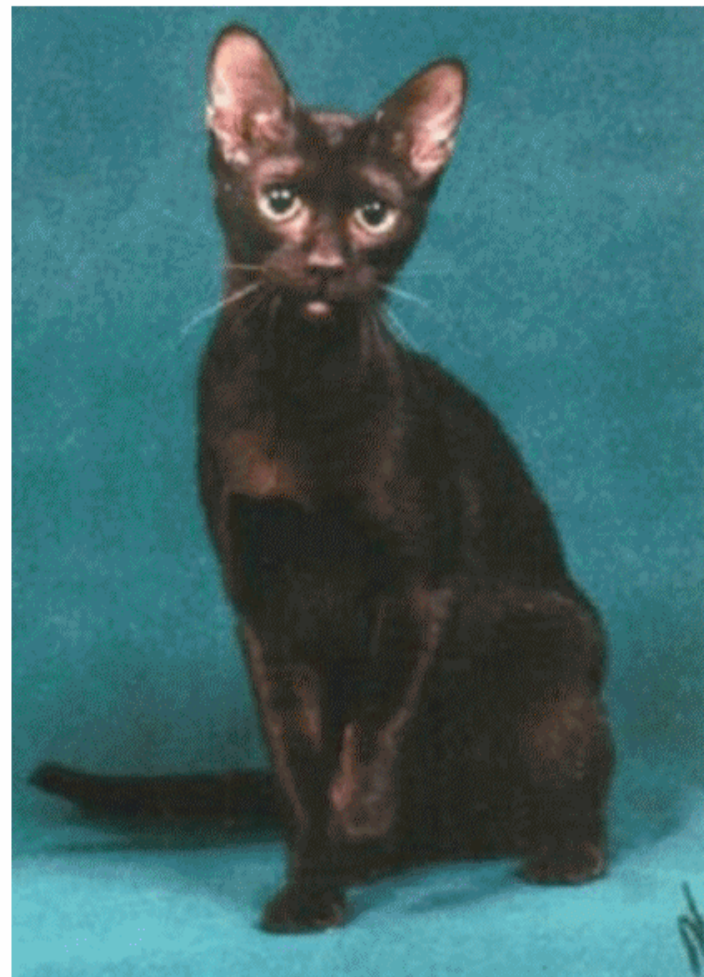
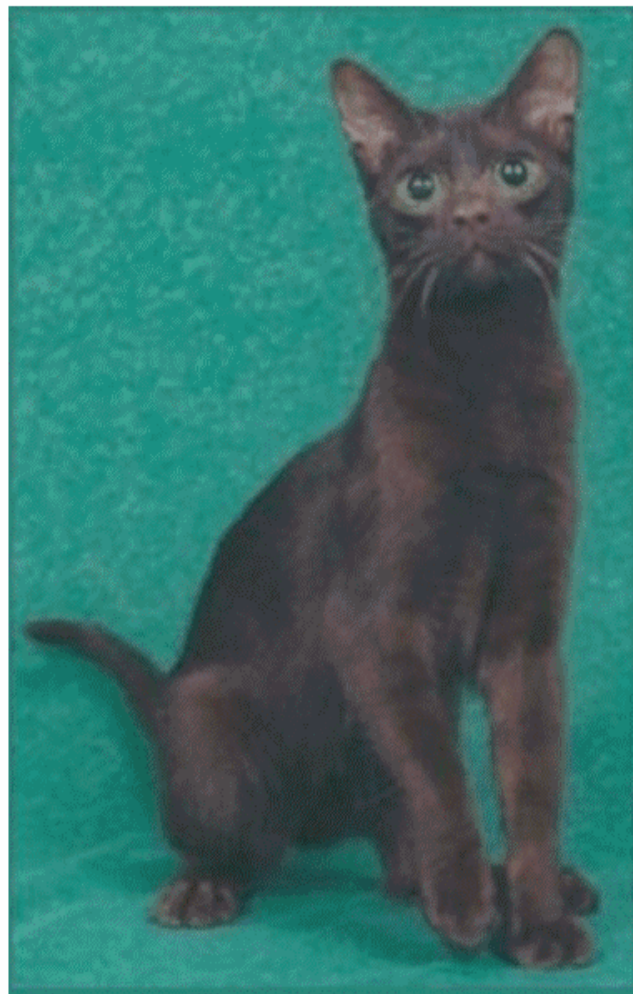
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**Proper ear set.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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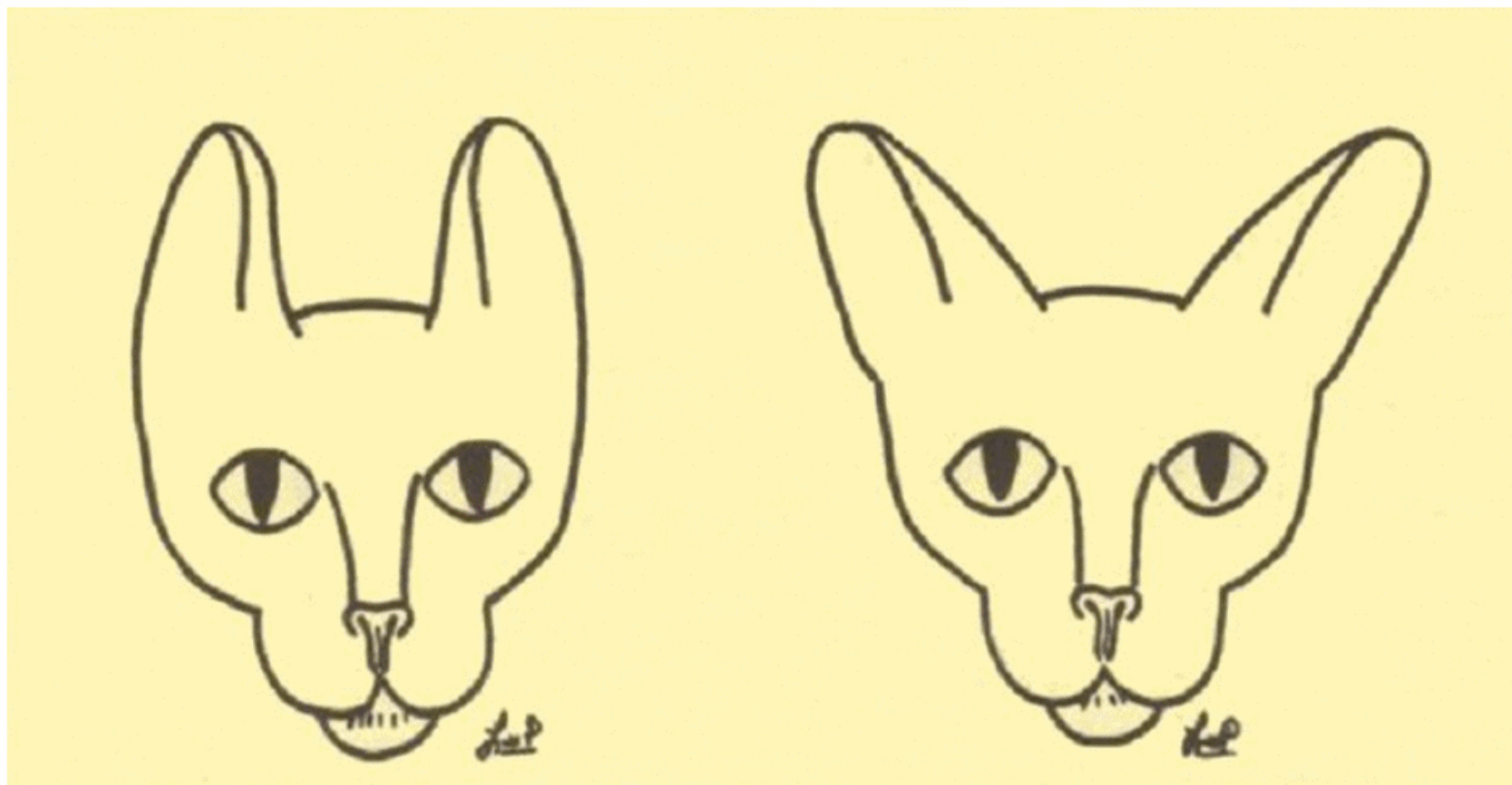


**Good Ear sets.**



# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

---



**Ears too high.**

**Ears too flared.**

# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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## Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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The ears are described as large. But what is large? The best **HAVANA BROWN** ears will be in proportion to the head and large enough to “set the look” but not so large as to **DOMINATE** the head.

The **HAVANA BROWN** should not have the “strikingly large” ears of the Oriental or the Siamese.

# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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*Photo By Paul E. Miller*

## **Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued**

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The Havana Brown is an exceptionally intelligent breed. This is undoubtedly a result of all the knowledge collected by their constantly attentive ears. The tilt of the **HAVANA BROWN** ear fairly cries out,

**“Let me in on the secret.”**



# Havana Brown - Head - Ears - Continued

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# **Havana Brown - Eyes**

---

## **Eye Shape & Size – 5 points**

- **Aperture oval in shape.**
- **Medium sized.**
- **Set well apart.**
- **Brilliant, alert and expressive.**
- **Give the appearance that the cat is looking down its nose.**



**Good eye shape and set.**

## **Havana Brown - Eyes - Continued**

---

### **Eye Color – 5 points**

- **Eye color MUST be green.**
- **Any vivid and level shade of green is acceptable.**
- **Deeper color is preferred, but not required.**
- **Keep in mind that the best eyes are deep and uniform in color, but uniformity should be more important than the shade of green.**



# Havana Brown - Eyes - Continued

---



*St. Arnaud*

# Havana Brown - Color

---

## Coat Color and Eye Color

- Coat color is a full 20 points.
- Eye color is ONLY 5 points.
- Breeders know that strikingly colored eyes are an instant way to focus attention on the cat, but it is important to keep eye color in its proper perspective when evaluating the entire cat.



# **Havana Brown - Color - Coat Color**

---

## **Coat Color – 20 points**

- **The Havana Brown is accepted for Championship competition in one color only -- BROWN – a rich even shade of warm brown.**
- **The brown coat must have a rich warm reddish flavor, subtle, but distinctive, like the proper amount of seasoning in a finely prepared meal. Too little or no reddish cast at all produces an almost flat look to the coat.**
- **Too much red, like too much cayenne pepper, will get your attention, but it should not receive your approval.**
- **Blackish or sable-like shades of brown are equally undesirable.**

# Havana Brown - Color - Coat Color - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Color - Coat Color - Continued**

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- **All solid colored cats mask tabby markings.**
- **Being a solid colored cat, Havana Browns may exhibit some ghost tabby markings. The Standard specifies that AN ALLOWANCE BE MADE FOR GHOST TABBY MARKINGS IN KITTENS AND YOUNG ADULTS.**
- **The best Havana Brown coats will exhibit little or no tabby ghosting on the body with any residual markings confined to the extremities.**
- **Lighter shades of rich brown color are preferred; however, any ghost markings will be more visible on the lighter shades.**
- **Most breeders would trade some level of ghosting for a lighter, richer color.**

# Havana Brown - Color - Coat Color - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Color - Pads, Nose & Whiskers**

---

### **Paw Pads, Nose Leather and Whiskers – 2 points**

- **Nose leather – Brown with a rosy flush.**
- **Paw pads – Rosy toned.**
- **Whiskers – BROWN, complimenting the coat color.**



# Havana Brown - Color - Pads, Nose & Whiskers - Continued

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# **Havana Brown - Coat**

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## **Coat – 10 points**

- **Smooth and lustrous.**
- **Short to medium in length.**
- **Coat should NEVER approach the “painted-on” look of the Oriental.**
- **Nor should it be long enough to be described as “plush”.**
- **The very best coat should feel like a luxurious Mink fur coat.**

## Havana Brown - Coat - Continued

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# Havana Brown - Body & Neck

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## Body & Neck – 15 points

- The **HAVANA BROWN** was, is and should be a **MEDIUM** cat.
- Confirmation is mid-range between short-coupled, thick set and svelte breeds.
- Torso is medium in length, firm and muscular.
- Neck is medium in length.
- **MEDIUM** is the key word in describing the Havana Brown.
- Ben Franklin – “Everything in moderation”.

# Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued

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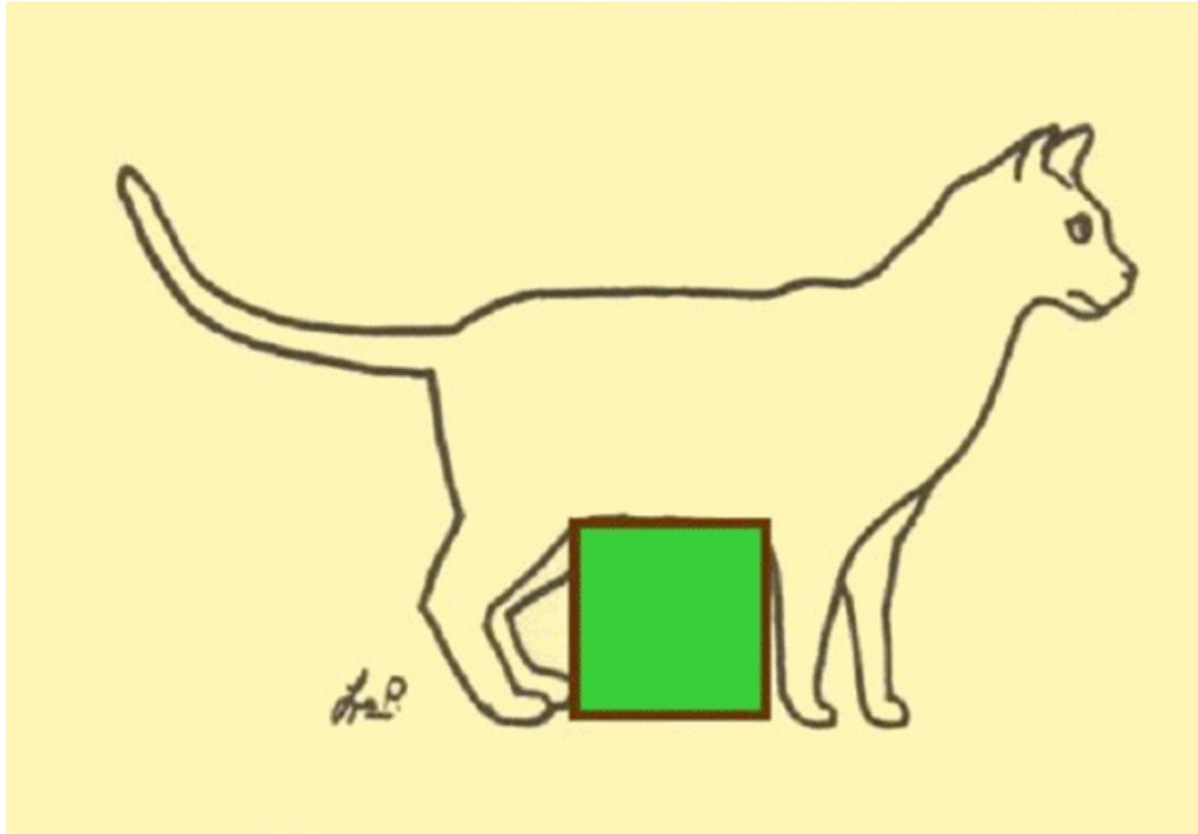
## **Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued**

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- **Adult males tend to be larger than adult females.**
- **Overall balance and proportion rather than size always to be the determining factors.**
- **Properly proportioned Havana Browns will define a square open area between the legs, bottom of the torso and the judging table.**
- **Outcrossing has produced some bodies that are too long, and legs that are somewhat short...thus a rectangular look. This is incorrect and should be penalized.**

## Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued

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**Profile view showing proportion.**

## **Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued**

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- **Torso will tend to taper from chest to hip.**
- **Body does not maintain the same width.**
- **No tendency for chest and forelegs to remind the judge of a bulldog.**
- **Boning is MEDIUM, although Standard refers to the legs of the female as “slim and dainty”.**
- **Havana Browns should never be fine boned or refined as the Oriental- type breeds.**

# Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued

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## **Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued**

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- **Males are larger than females.**
- **Balance and proportion are the keys, not simply size for this medium-sized cat.**
- **Be aware that some Havana Brown kittens mature slowly.**
- **This is particularly true of kittens from the out cross program.**
- **As stated above, balance and proportion are more important than size.**
- **Most breeders avoid producing girls that are small and boys that are large and rangy.**
- **Whether male or female, the **HAVANA BROWN** should have excellent muscle tone and always feel heavier than it looks.**



# Havana Brown - Body & Neck - Continued

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# **Havana Brown - Legs & Feet**

---

## **Legs & Feet – 5 points**

- **Ideal specimen stands relatively high on legs for a cat of Medium proportions in trunk and tail.**
- **Legs are straight.**
- **Legs of females are slim and dainty.**
- **Slenderness and length of leg will be less evident in the more powerfully muscular, mature males.**
- **Hind legs slightly longer than front.**
- **Paws are oval and compact.**
- **Toes: five in front and four behind.**

# Havana Brown - Legs & Feet - Continued

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# Havana Brown - Tail

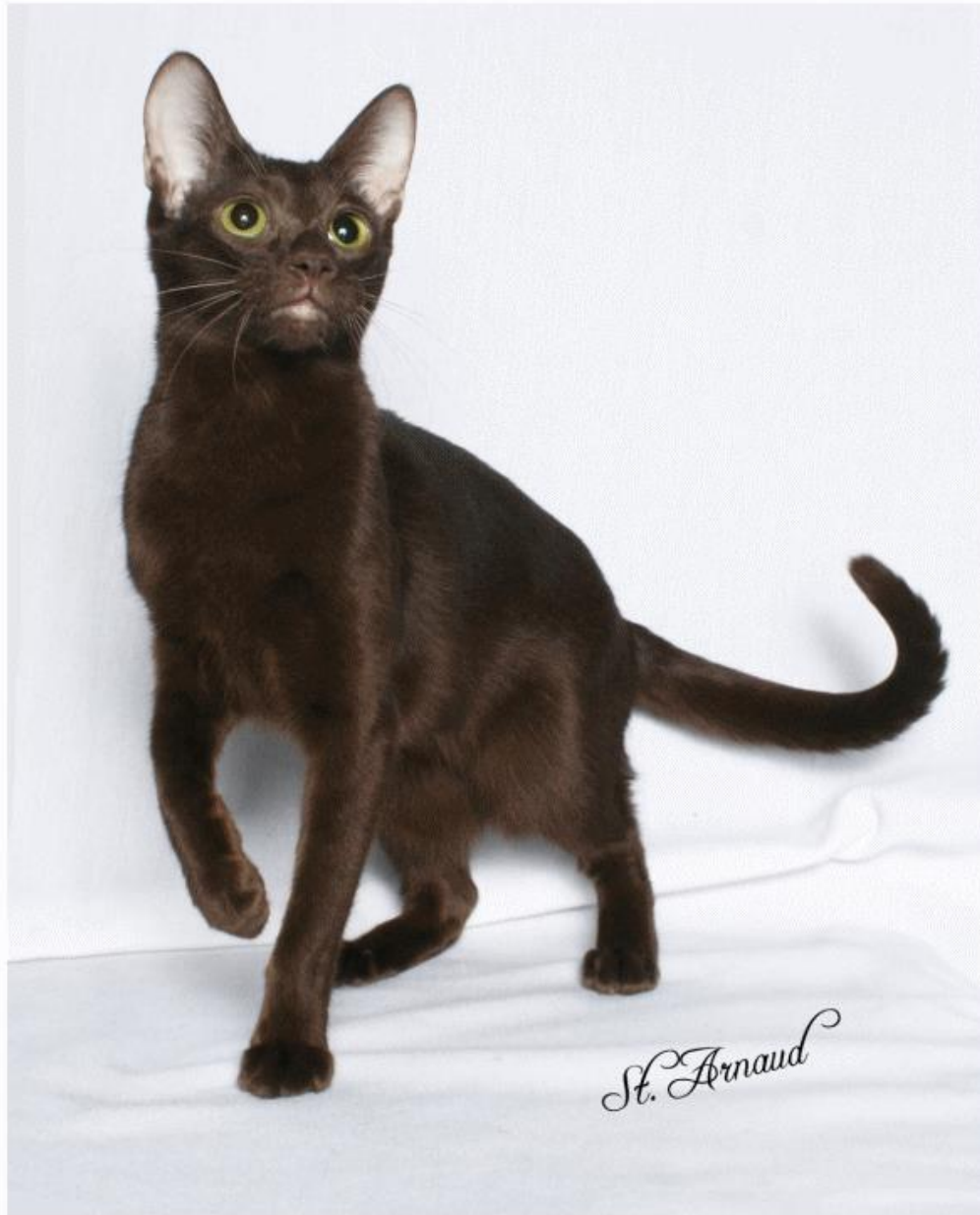
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## Tail – 5 points

- Medium in length.
- Slender, neither whip-like nor blunt.
- Tapering at the end.
- Not too broad at the base.
- In proportion to the body.

# Havana Brown - Tail - Continued

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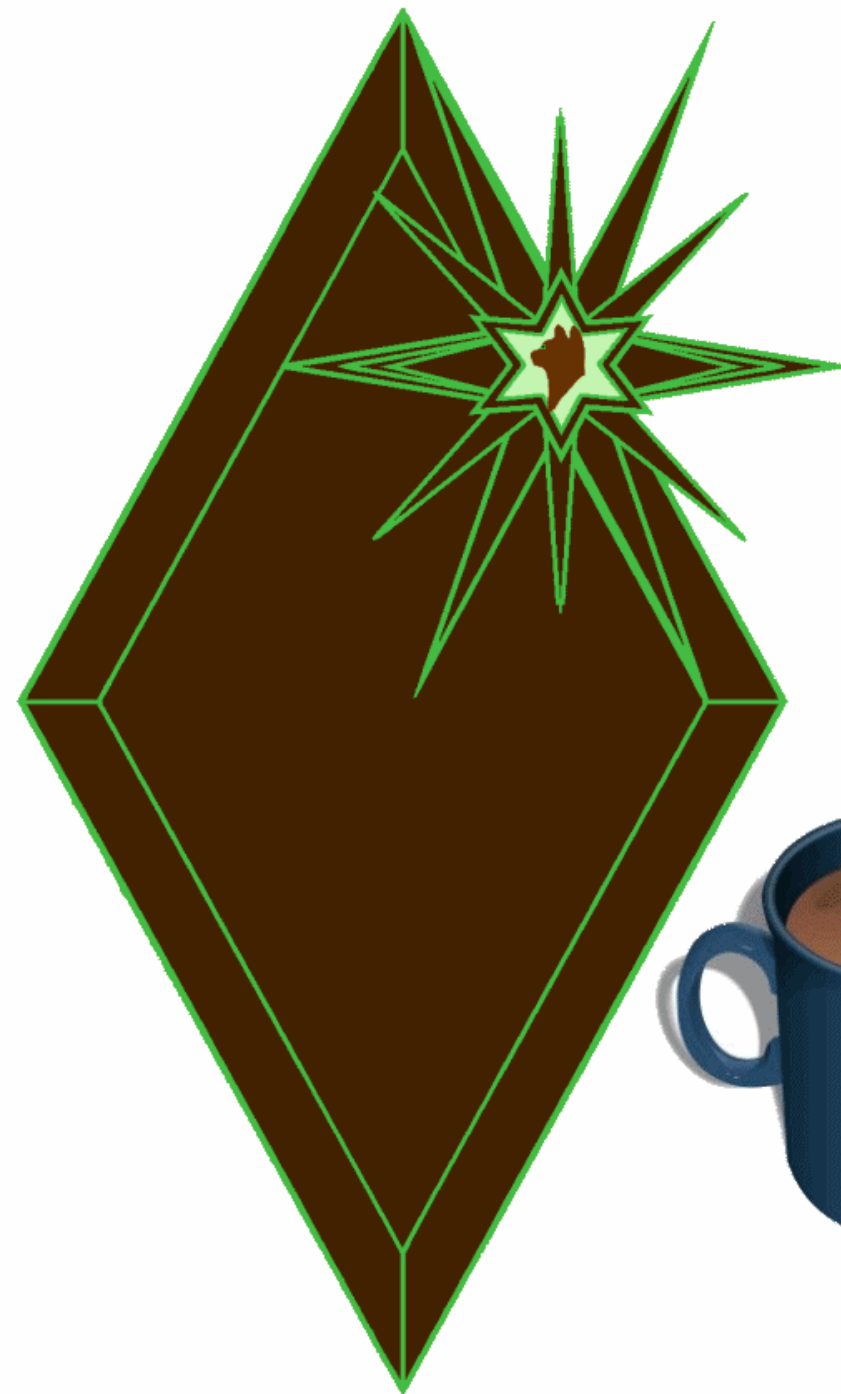


# **Havana Brown - Disqualify**

---

## **Disqualify**

- **Kinked tail.**
- **Locket or button.**
- **Incorrect number of toes.**
- **Any eye color other than green.**
- **Incorrect color of whiskers.**
- **Incorrect color of nose leather or paw pads.**



**Havana Brown  
Breed Council Website**  
<http://www.havanabrownbc.info>

# **Havana Brown - Handling**

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## **Handling**

The **HAVANA BROWN** is an extremely intelligent breed. It is also one of our most sensitive breeds. This is especially notable in the head area. So much emphasis is placed on the muzzle that judges must feel and handle it properly to evaluate the cat.

Breeders are aware of this and work with their kittens to help them get comfortable with the judging procedures, but some tricks are useful in handling the **HAVANA BROWN**.

## **Havana Brown - Handling - Continued**

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**The key to the successful completion of the judging task is firmness combined with softness.**

**Let the cat keep at least two feet on the judging table at all times. A nervous cat may need to keep all four feet on the table. With most specimens, it is not necessary to keep a firm hold on the cat while on the judging table.**

**Most Havana Browns are active and playful and look forward to being offered a feather or toy on the judging table.**

## **Havana Brown - Handling - Continued**

---

**If you are lucky enough to have one of those judging stands with the sisal-covered poles, the cat will enjoy stretching and showing off those wonderful muscles without being restrained. Also take advantage of this opportunity while the cat is relaxed to evaluate the head and muzzle. The application of undue pressure on the whisker pads or chin should be avoided.**

**Hold the head to check the profile without excessive rotation. There is no need to roll the head back onto the shoulders to evaluate the stop.**



## **Havana Brown - Handling - Continued**

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**The whisker break is best evaluated by gently grasping the head from behind the cat. Then using minimum pressure, feel the boning at the break.**

**Pinching or squeezing the whisker pads is not necessary and will only upset the cat.**

**Try to keep your hands outside the cat's peripheral vision to minimize the possibility of startling the cat.**

## **Havana Brown - Handling - Continued**

---

**NEVER lunge at the cat's face. The cat will see the hand coming and try to avoid it.**

**It is important that both the head-on and the profile view of the head be evaluated.**

**At the end of class judging, just before hanging the ribbons, it is helpful to use a teaser or feather to catch another look at both views of the head.**

# Havana Brown - Are we there, YET ?

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# Havana Brown Breed Presentation

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This concludes the presentation of the **HAVANA BROWN**. Hopefully, we have helped clarify your understanding of our breed.

**THE END**



# **Havana Brown - Acknowledgements**

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## **Acknowledgements**

**Special thanks to JoAnn Cummings for creating the original presentation for use at the Breed and Awareness School held at the International. JoAnn based her presentation on material presented at the June 1991 Judges' Workshop by the Havana Brown Breed Council in Philadelphia.**

**The presentation was the focal point of the Havana Brown Breed Booth at the International in Houston in 2003.**

**In 2009, Anne Edwards and Norma Placchi updated the presentation at Pat Jacobberger's request for use at the Breed and Awareness School at the International Show in Atlanta. The presentation was continuously displayed in the Havana Brown Breed Council booth.**



## **Havana Brown - Acknowledgements - Continued**

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**Modifications and additions were made in May 2010 for use at the Judges' Workshop on June 24, 2010. A big Thank You to those Breed Council members who so graciously responded when asked for input, suggestions, monetary contributions, etc. Your help was most appreciated.**

**I sincerely thank each and every one that was involved in this presentation. Special thanks to Anne and Ray Edwards and Brenda Wood and to my son, Lee Placchi, for the drawings.**

**Norma J. Placchi**

**Havana Brown Breed Council Secretary**

# HAVANA BROWN BREED STANDARD

**GENERAL:** the overall impression of the ideal Havana Brown is a cat of medium size with a rich, solid color coat and good muscle tone. Due to its distinctive muzzle shape, coat color, brilliant and expressive eyes and large forward tilted ears, it is comparable to no other breed.

**HEAD:** when viewed from above, the head is longer than it is wide, narrowing to a rounded muzzle with a pronounced break on both sides behind the whisker pads. The somewhat narrow muzzle and the whisker break are distinctive characteristics of the breed and must be evident in the typical specimen. When viewed in profile, there is a distinct stop at the eyes; the end of the muzzle appears almost square; this illusion is heightened by a well developed chin, the profile outline of which is more square than round. Ideally, the tip of the nose and the chin form an almost perpendicular line. Allowance to be made for somewhat broader heads and stud jowls in the adult male. Allow for sparse hair on chin, directly below lower lip.

**EARS:** large, round-tipped, cupped at the base, wide-set but not flaring; tilted forward giving the cat an alert appearance. Little hair inside or outside.

## **EYES:**

**Shape:** aperture oval in shape. Medium sized; set wide apart; brilliant, alert and expressive.

**Color:** any vivid and level shade of green; the deeper the color the better.

## HAVANA BROWN POINT SCORE

### HEAD (33)

Shape.....	8
Profile/Stop.....	8
Muzzle.....	8
Chin.....	4
Ear.....	5

### EYES (10)

Shape & Size.....	5
Color.....	5

### COLOR (22)

Coat Color.....	20
Paw Pads, Nose Leather & Whiskers.	2

COAT.....10

BODY AND NECK.....15

LEGS AND FEET..... 5

TAIL..... 5

## HAVANA BROWN BREED STANDARD - Continued

**BODY AND NECK:** torso medium in length, firm and muscular. Adult males tend to be larger than their female counterparts. Overall balance and proportion rather than size to be determining factor. The neck is medium in length and in proportion to the body. The general conformation is mid-range between the short-coupled, thick set and svelte breeds.

**LEGS AND FEET:** the ideal specimen stands relatively high on its legs for a cat of medium proportions in trunk and tail. Legs are straight. The legs of females are slim and dainty; slenderness and length of leg will be less evident in the more powerfully muscled, mature males. Hind legs slightly longer than front. Paws are oval and compact. Toes: five in front and four behind.

**TAIL:** medium in length and in proportion to the body; slender, neither whip-like nor blunt; tapering at the end. Not too broad at the base.

**COAT:** short to medium in length, smooth and lustrous.

**DISQUALIFY:** kinked tail, locket or button, incorrect number of toes, any eye color other than green, incorrect color of whiskers, nose leather or paw pads.

**COLOR:** a rich and even shade of warm brown throughout; color tends toward red-brown (mahogany) rather than black-brown.

**Nose leather:** brown with a rosy flush.

**Paw pads:** rosy toned.

**Whiskers:** brown, complementing the coat color. ALLOW FOR GHOST TABBY MARKINGS IN KITTENS AND YOUNG ADULTS.

### Havana Brown Color Class Numbers

**Brown**.....0408, 0409

**AOV**.....0418, 0419

**Havana Brown allowable outcross breeds:**  
certain limited outcrossing is permissible for the Havana Brown. Contact the CFA Central Office for details.

**Havana Brown, © 2009 The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.**

# CFA Judges' Workshop

**The Havana Brown**

**June 24, 2010**



**CFA ANNUAL MEETING**

**2010**

**Hyatt Regency Minneapolis  
Minneapolis, MN**