

Japanese Bobtail

The Japanese Bobtail should present the overall impression of a medium sized cat with clean lines and bone structure, well muscled but straight and slender rather than massive in build. The unique set of its eyes, combined with high cheekbones and a long parallel nose, lend a distinctive Japanese cast to the face, especially in profile, quite different from the other oriental breeds. Its short tail should resemble a bunny tail with the hair fanning out to create a pom-pom appearance, which effectively camouflages the underlying bone structure of the tail.

HEAD	Although the head appears long and finely chiseled, it forms an almost perfect equilateral triangle (the triangle does not include the ears) with gentle curving lines. High cheekbones. Fairly broad muzzle rounding to a noticeable whisker break. Neither pointed nor blunt. The nose is long and well defined by two parallel lines from tip to brow with a gentle dip at, or just below, eye level. Chin full and firm. Allowance must be made for jowls in the stud cat.
EARS	Large, upright, and expressive. Set wide apart but at right angles to the head rather than flaring outward, and giving the impression of being tilted forward in repose.
EYES	Large, oval, wide and alert. Set into the skull at a rather pronounced slant when viewed in profile. The eyeball shows a shallow curvature and should not bulge out beyond the cheekbone or the forehead
NECK	Neither too long nor too short, in proportion to the length of the body.
BODY	Medium in size, males proportionately larger than females. Long, lean and elegant. Shapely and showing well-developed muscular strength without coarseness. No inclination toward flabbiness or cobbliness. General balance of utmost importance.
LEGS	In keeping with the body, long, slender, and high, but not dainty or fragile in appearance. The hind legs noticeably longer than the forelegs, but deeply angulated. When the cat is standing relaxed, the back remains nearly level rather than rising toward the rear. When standing, the forelegs and shoulders form two continuous straight lines, close together.
PAWS	Oval.
TAIL	<p>The tail is unique not only to the breed, but to each individual cat. This is to be used as a guideline, rather than promoting one specific type of tail out of the many that occurs within the breed.</p> <p>The tail must be clearly visible and is composed of one or more curves, angles, or kinks or any combination thereof. The pom-pom appearance should be approximately 4-8 cm. Although if the tailbone was extended to its full length, it might be 13 cm long. The tail is usually carried upright when the cat is relaxed, but the direction in which the tail is carried is not important. The tail is usually rigid, but may be flexible and should be of a size and shape that harmonizes with the rest of the cat.</p> <p>The hair on tail is somewhat longer and thicker than the body fur, growing outward in all directions to create a pom-pom effect or bunny tail effect. The pom-pom appears to commence at the base of the spine and camouflages the underlying bone structure of the tail.</p>
COAT	<p>Short Hair Japanese Bobtail Medium length, soft and silky, but without a noticeable undercoat.</p> <p>Long Hair Japanese Bobtail Medium-long to long length, texture soft and silky, and a fine undercoat may be present. Frontal ruff desirable. Coat may be shorter and close lying over the shoulders, gradually</p>

lengthening toward the rump, with noticeable longer hair on the tail and trousers. Ear and toe tufts desirable. Coat should lie so as to accent the lines of the body.

COAT COLOUR In the bi-colours and tri-colours (MI-KE) any colour may predominate with preference given to bold, dramatic markings and vividly contrasting colours. In the solid colour cat the coat colour should be even and solid to the roots.

NOSE LEATHER AND PAW PADS Should harmonize with coat colour

EYE COLOUR Any eye colour accepted and should generally harmonize with coat colour. Blue eyes and odd eyes are allowed for all coat colours.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head	General shape, nose jaws and teeth, forehead, chin	10
	Placement and shape of ears	5
	Shape, placement and colour of eyes	5
Body	Shape, size, bone structure	15
	Shape and length of legs, and paws	15
Tail	Length and shape	20
Coat	Colour and pattern	15
	Quality and texture	10
Condition		5
		100

FAULTS

Short round head.
Cobby body.
Any defects as listed in the Relevant to All Breeds Section

DISQUALIFY:

Tail bone absent or extending too far beyond body.
Tail lacking in pom-pom or fluffy appearance.
Delayed bobtail effect (i.e., the pom-pom being preceded by an inch or two of normal tail with close-lying hair rather than pom-pom appearing to commence at the base of the spine).

Japanese Bobtail Coat Colours

Self colours [white, black, black tortoiseshell blue, blue tortoiseshell, red and cream]	Page G22
Shaded colours	Page G26
Smoke: Black, blue, red and cream and all variations thereof	Page G30
Patterned colours [Tabbies]	Page G37
Patched colours: Bi-colours and Mi-Ke (tri-colours) [Black and blue bi-colour and calico, including tabby Calicos and Silver tabby Calicos]	Page G73

Colours not acceptable: Chocolate, lilac, pointed or un-patterned agouti (i.e. Abyssinian)

Allowable Outcross Breeds: None