

THE RAGDOLL BREED GROUP:

Cherubim (CB) Focus



May 1, 2025

Slides Created by Christine Lupo

RAGGEDY ANN CATTERY



The Origin Story:

Ann Baker & the Raggedy Ann Cattery. Created in Riverside, CA in the 1960s from Black Persian and Apple-headed Lilac Balinese lines.



The Cattery:

Ann Baker's client entrance, attached to her home, where the Ragdoll breed began.



The Original Breeder:

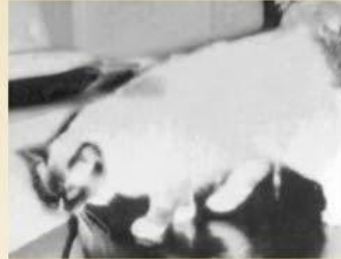
Baker's Ragdolls were bred from pre-existing breeds. Desirable traits were kept and the rest were bred out of the lines.

Breed Evolution & Cherubims

Ragdoll cats were selectively bred for large size, exquisite features, and serene dispositions in solid, mink, sepia, and pointed colors. Today, beautiful Ragdolls and their breed group of Cherubims can be seen at TICA cat shows.

ANN BAKER'S LEGACY

Ann Baker created her own breed standard, established franchisees, and built her own Ragdoll organization, the International Ragdoll Cat Association (IRCA). She also patented the Ragdoll and Cherubim names and colors. She was educated. Her interests included feline genetics, feline nutrition, natural remedies, and breeding. She was a business woman. She was the creator and originator of the Woman-breed: the Ragdoll. She sought to protect herself and her beloved Ragdolls through contracts, patents, and the courts, when some breeders chose to oppose her in a variety of ways.



DIVERGING PATHS: THE DAYTONS & THE RAGAMUFFIN

THE DAYTONS' MISSION



Denny and Laura Dayton, among the first breeders, dismissed Ann Baker's vision. They made it their mission to establish a small representation of the Ragdoll breed (the blue-eyed variant) in multiple cat fancier associations and show halls in the 70s and 80s.



According to Tina Rollins' book, this photo is of Ann Baker holding Kyoto and his SON, Kookie Tu.

THE RAGAMUFFIN ORIGIN



Another group of breeders, in the early 90s, chose not to honor contractual agreements with Baker. They outcrossed to other cats to produce many different colors and patterns, promoting them as a "new" breed: the Ragamuffin.

THREE ANCESTRAL FELINES

JOSEPHINE (Dam)



The “White Line” Founder. Pure white cat. According to VdOR, the first genealogical mother. All three ancestors are of UNKNOWN origin.

BURMESE (Dam)



The “Dark Line” Founder (Also “Blackie”). Markings were MINK and carried the variant point gene. Photo depicts Burmese with her kittens (one thought to be Buckwheat, Seal Colorpoint).

BIRMAN (Sire)



The Genealogical Father (Also “Beauty”). Looked similar to the breed Sacred Burma. Carried the white spotting gene, not the laced Glove gene (bicolor possible). All three ancestors are of UNKNOWN origin.

HISTORY & GENETICS

JOSEPHINE (Dam)




Hidden
pointed
gene.

Solid, carrying the
pointed gene.

BURMESE (Dam)
“Blackie”




Mink.

Mink.

BIRMAN (Sire)
“Beauty”




? or
Pointed or
Mink

Either MINK or pointed.

Based upon genetics alone, Daddy Warbucks could have been a blue eyed chocolate mink; likewise, for Buckwheat, the daughter of the dam, Burmese (Blackie). Baker's Light/Dark line theory was based upon appearance and temperament. The ideal Ragdoll, according to Baker, was a combination of the two lines to maintain balance in type. In addition to this, it can be surmised that Baker knew exactly what she was doing in creating a dark line and a light line: minks on the dark line were intentional by breeding the cats, Burmese x Daddy Warbucks.

Chocolate and lilac minks appear white at birth; blue eyed chocolate and lilac minks look like pointed seal and blue adults. Baker worked closely with Blue Mountain and (intentionally or not based upon genetics) kept those mink and pointed genes going through that Cattery that remained loyal to Baker, along with the catteries of Purple Heather, Vistin, JD's, Rway, and Monty.



MINK RAGDOLLS

FIVE FOUNDING RAGDOLLS

- ❖ Rollins states, “1) DADDY WARBUCKS in Seal Mitted and 2) GUEBER in Seal Mitted... are brothers from the mating of Josephine x Birman [Beauty]” (36).



JOSEPHINE & KITTENS
(Summer 1965?)

DEBATING THE PHOTO

According to the book, *Original Ragdoll Genuine and Authentic*, the photo of Josephine with her four kittens are of “Two solid black ones, which she did not use for breeding, and the two [pointed] males Daddy Warbucks and Gueber” (Rollins 34).

- Pickering and his co-authors of *The Definitive Guide to Ragdolls* captioned the photo, “Stand in for Josephine with the first Ragdoll kittens, Summer 1965. Left to right, Gueber, Mitts, Tiki, and Kyoto” (2).
- In Baker’s book, *IRCA and the Ragdoll Documentary*, it depicts the same photo as *The Definitive Guide to Ragdolls*, but captioned, “Stand in for Josephine, the mother who was injured in an accident.” (6).

CONFLICTING PARENTAGE RECORDS

Gueber. Was he solid or pointed? Again, Rollins states the five founding Ragdolls descended from three ancestral cats: Josephine, Burmese, and Birman (33).

- According to Baker’s ledger, a litter of four out of Buckwheat x Daddy Warbucks born on July 3, 1965, named Tiki, Kyoto (NCFA reg), plus separated out were Gueber and Mitts labeled as “experimental Persians.”
- Pickering also states, “During detailed questioning [of 77 year old Baker], Ann confirmed that...he [Daddy Warbucks] was the only kitten in that particular litter of Josephine’s” (3).
- She references it later indicating, “They are originally brother and sister to Tiki and Kyoto” (Breeding Program 8). Were the pointed kittens in the photo Tiki/Kyoto born in 1963, or Warbucks/Gueber circa 1963?
- Dayton’s pedigree of Raggedy Ann Buddy, extract from VdOR, indicates that Tiki and Kyoto are out of Daddy Warbucks x Buckwheat.

FIVE FOUNDING RAGDOLLS...



FUGIANNA

- ❖ 3) Fugiana in Seal Bicolor from the back mating of Josephine with her son, Daddy Warbucks.



TIKI

- ❖ 4) Tiki in Seal Colorpoint. Born out of Buckwheat and Daddy Warbucks.



KYOTO

- ❖ 5) Kyoto in Seal Mitted. Born out of Buckwheat and Daddy Warbucks.

DARK AND LIGHT LINES

THE LIGHTLINE (LL)

- ❖ The Lightline (LL) was from Josephine. In 1963, Baker mated Josephine x Birman that produced the founding cats: Daddy Warbucks and Gueber in Seal Mitted, and the back mating: Josephine x Daddy Warbucks that produced the third founding cat in 1965: Fugianna, Seal Bicolor.

THE DARKLINE (DL)

- ❖ The Darkline (DL) was from Burmese (Blackie). In 1965, Baker bred Burmese x Daddy Warbucks that produced Buckwheat in Seal Colorpoint (according to Dayton Genetics Card). From the back mating of Buckwheat x Daddy Warbucks came Tiki, seal colorpoint and Kyoto, an extremely dark Seal Mitted.






THREE DAMS

❖ MATINGS OF THE THREE DAMS:

- Josephine x Birman (Beauty) = Daddy Warbucks and Gueber.
- Josephine x Daddy Warbucks = Fugianna
- Burmese x Daddy Warbucks = Buckwheat
- Buckwheat x Daddy Warbucks = Tiki and Kyoto

❖ LIGHTLINE (LL) / DARKLINE (DL) AND THE FIRST RAGDOLL FOUNDING CATS:

- Raggedy Ann Daddy Warbucks, Seal Mitted (LL)
- Raggedy Ann Gueber, Seal Mitted (LL)
- Raggedy Ann Fugianna, Seal Bicolor (LL)
DOB: 5/5/65
- Raggedy Ann Kyoto, Seal Mitted (DL)
DOB: 7/3/65
- Raggedy Ann Tiki, Seal Colorpoint (DL)
DOB: 7/3/65



CATTERIES WHO HONORED BAKER'S CONTRACTS

❖ LOYAL CATTERIES & GENE PRESERVATION

- To reiterate, Baker worked closely with Blue Mountain and (intentionally or not based upon genetics) kept those mink and pointed genes going through that Cattery, who remained loyal and honored Baker's contract, along with Purple Heather, Vistin, JD's, Rway, and possibly Monty.

❖ THE "SIDELINE" & DATABASE CHALLENGES

- Purple Heather and Blue Mountain cats were included in the Dayton Genetic Card called the "Sideline" based upon what he "knew" of the parentage. Many have "unknown" in their pedigrees because those cats are from those catteries.
- VdOR, Tina Rollins, tried to correct RFCI and PawPeds Databases. In Tina Rollins' book, she expresses frustration at the lack of interest in making corrections.

APPLICATION TO ADVANCE TO CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS

❖ THE PATH TO RECOGNITION

- Mink, Sepia, and Solid Ragdolls have been registered in TICA since 1979, but could only be shown in TICA within the “New Traits” (NT) class. On October 17, 2023, the notice of intent was published in the TICA Trend magazine as the first step taken to apply for advancement to Championship status as Cherubim through the creation of a breed group. In the three years prior to this date, there were finally enough NT cats showing to move forward with the proposal for advancement.

❖ OFFICIAL PUBLICATION & TIMELINE



- This intent was submitted as per TICA rules which required it to be published a minimum of 120 days prior to the Board of Directors meeting, at which time the application would be heard.

The background is a deep purple with a repeating gold damask pattern. At the top, a wide, flowing gold banner is held by two winged cherubs. The banner contains the title in a serif font. Below the banner, two large, ornate gold scroll-like frames are positioned side-by-side, connected by a large, stylized gold arrow pointing from left to right. Each frame contains a list of events. The entire design is highly decorative and formal.

THE PROCESS FROM SURVEY TO OFFICIAL VOTE

❖ NOVEMBER 5, 2023: THE SURVEY

- An “unofficial” survey was sent to the breed section to permit all voices to be heard regarding the name of the breed group. The choices were: Cherubim, Cherubim Ragdoll, or Cherubim Doll.

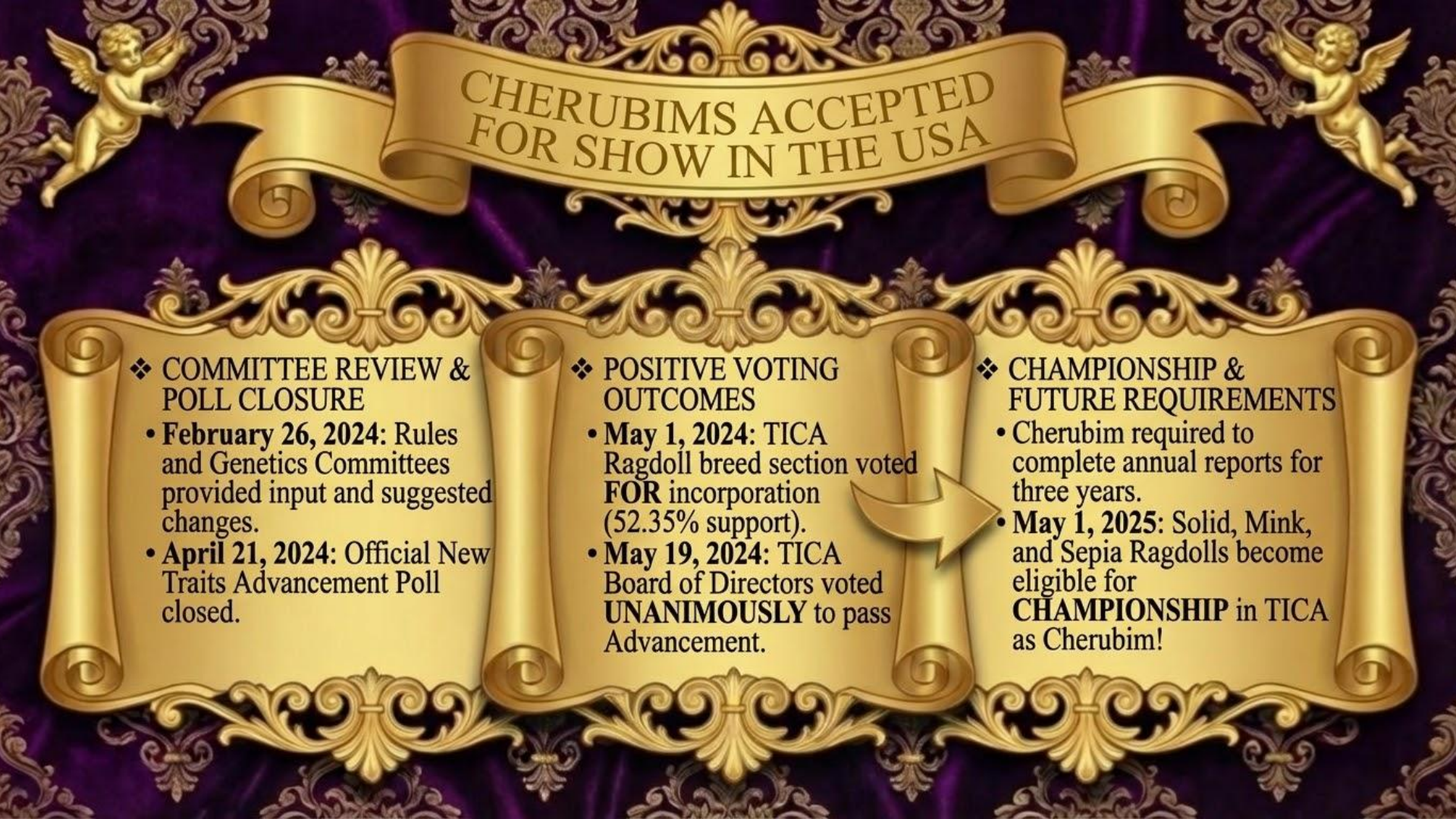
❖ DETERMINATION & SUBMISSION

- Upon determining the name and ability to pass an proposal application was completed, signed by all ten breeders, and submitted to appropriate committees.

❖ NOVEMBER 6, 2023: PROPOSAL & COLLABORATION

- The proposal was completed by Christine Lupo, Amanda Jimmink, and Elizabeth Boatwright, with the name still to be determined.

Ten breeders (five Pointed, five Cherubim) collaborated on revising and finalizing the proposal, whittling it down from six pages to one through dozens of revisions.



CHERUBIMS ACCEPTED FOR SHOW IN THE USA

❖ COMMITTEE REVIEW & POLL CLOSURE

- **February 26, 2024:** Rules and Genetics Committees provided input and suggested changes.
- **April 21, 2024:** Official New Traits Advancement Poll closed.

❖ POSITIVE VOTING OUTCOMES

- **May 1, 2024:** TICA Ragdoll breed section voted **FOR** incorporation (52.35% support).
- **May 19, 2024:** TICA Board of Directors voted **UNANIMOUSLY** to pass Advancement.

❖ CHAMPIONSHIP & FUTURE REQUIREMENTS

- Cherubim required to complete annual reports for three years.
- **May 1, 2025:** Solid, Mink, and Sepia Ragdolls become eligible for **CHAMPIONSHIP** in TICA as Cherubim!

CHERUBIM SHOWING IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS

Article Three - Recognition of Breeds for Registration

33.1 Registration of New Breeds. New Breeds shall be recognized as follows:

303.1 *Quick Reference Chart for New Breeds.*

	Registration	Preliminary New Breed	Advanced New Breed	New Trait	Championship
Registrations required for advancement		15 adults 10 litters Must have been recognized for registration for at least 2 years	100 adults: 50 must have a registration code eligible for CH or can produce off-spring eligible for CH 25 litters	10 cats if fewer than 100 registered OR 10% of cats registered not to exceed 50 cats	200 adults registered in any full WCC member association of which 50 must be registered in TICA and be potentially eligible for championship
Active Breeders		5 in 3 regions	15 in 5 regions	10 total	15 in 5 regions
Entries in TICA shows prior to advancement			25 unique cats shown in PNB	10 unique cats shown with New Trait	25 unique cats in at least 25 WCC shows and at least 10 TICA shows
Entry Class	Not Applicable (can be in hall with approval of show com)	Entry in PNB Class	Entry in ANB Class	Entry in New Trait Class	Championship Class
Judging Procedures	Not handled	Judged in PNB Class	Judged in ANB Class	Judged in NT Class	Judged for championship
Awards		Class awards and PNB Merit Final	Class awards and ANB Merit Final	Class awards and NT Merit Final	Color, division, breed and final awards
Annual Award Scoring	Not Scored	Not Scored	Not Scored	Not Scored	Scored for Annual Awards



REGISTRATION STATUS CODES

❖ SBT/SBV EXPLANATION

- The extension of the “V” instead of the “T,” identifies breeds that belong to breed groups (Persian, Abyssinian, Siamese, Ragdoll, etc.) where more than one breed has a single point mutation causing the variation (polydactyl, coat length, COLORATION).
The offspring of two cats of different breeds within a breed group will have the “V” for “Variant” in the registration number.
Ragdoll offspring of Cherubim will be RD but with the code, “SBV.” Cherubim offspring will be CB with the code, “SBV.”

❖ STUD BOOK CODES

- SB - The cat has no cats which are unknown, unregistered, or of another breed or breed group within a three-generation pedigree.

❖ ANCESTRY RECORD CODES

- 01 - The cat has at least one unknown or unregistered parent.
- 02 - The cat has at least one unknown or unregistered grandparent.
- 03 - The cat has at least one unknown or unregistered great grandparent.

❖ HYBRIDIZATION RECORD CODES

- AO - The cat is the product of two cats of different breeds (outside a breed group).
- BO - The cat has at least one grandparent of a different breed.
- CO - The cat has at least one great grandparent of a different breed.

❖ THIRD POSITION CODES

- T (Traditional) - Only the breed in question, within a three-generation pedigree.
- V (Variant) - Crosses outside the breed but within the breed group.
- P (Permissible) - Crosses outside the breed/breed group to a permitted breed.
- N (Non-Permissible) - Crosses outside the breed/breed group to a non-permitted breed.
- S (Species) - Outcrosses to species other than *Felis catus*/*Felis domesticus*.

POINTED RAGDOLL GENETICS & COMBINATIONS

- A solid (Ccs) bred to a mink (cbcs) Cherubim will produce 25% pointed kittens.
- Two mink Cherubim parents mated, a combination of cbcs, will produce 25% pointed kittens.
- A pointed Ragdoll (cscs) cat bred to a mink (cbcs) Cherubim will produce 50% pointed kittens.
- A solid (Ccs) Cherubim to a Pointed (cscs) Ragdoll will produce 50% pointed kittens.
- If both Ragdoll parents are cscs, recessive bred to recessive, then 100% of the kittens will be pointed.
- With only one, or no copies of this cs allele, the cat will have pigmentation over the whole body and is considered a Traditional "solid" colored cat (CC, Ccs, or Ccb).



Again, Ragdoll offspring of Cherubim will be RD but with the code, "SBV."
Cherubim offspring will be CB with the code, "SBV."
TICA will automatically assign these codes.

Click document
to open official
Ragdoll Breed Group
Standard
Updated 5/1/25.

RAGDOLL BREED GROUP (RD/CB)

The **Ragdoll** (RD) is a large semi-longhair, blue eyed pointed cat of moderate type.
The **Cherubim** (CB) is a large semi-longhair, mink, sepia, or traditional colored cat of moderate type.

HEAD	40 points
Shape.....	9
Ears.....	5
Eyes.....	7
Chin.....	5
Muzzle.....	4
Profile.....	9
Neck.....	1
BODY	35 points
Torso.....	8
Legs/Feet.....	5
Tail.....	4
Boning.....	10
Musculature.....	8
COAT/COLOR/PATTERN	25 points
Length.....	4
Texture.....	8
Pattern.....	6
Color.....	7

CATEGORY: RD - Pointed; CB - Mink, Sepia & Traditional
DIVISIONS: RD - Solid Point Division; Tortie Point Division; Tabby Point Division; Solid Point/White, Tortie Point/White, Tabby Point/White Divisions (mited and bicolor patterns ONLY).

CB - Solid Division; Tortie Division; Tabby Division; Solid & White, Tortie & White, Tabby & White Divisions (mitted and bicolor patterns ONLY).

COLORS:

RD - All pointed colors.

CB - All Mink, Sepia & Traditional colors, except solid white

PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES: None

HEAD:

Shape: Broad modified wedge, with slightly rounded contours, with the appearance of a flat plane in area between ears when looking at the head from the front, skull medium in size.

Ears: Medium in size, broad at base, rounded tip. Set as much on top of the head as on the side, slightly tilted forward.

Eyes: Large oval. Level set; moderately wide apart. Emphasis should be on correct shape, size and placement.

Preference given to deeper tones in all colors.

RD - Blue, CB - Mink: Blue-Green to Green-Blue (Aqua); **Sepia:** Gold, Gold-Green (Chartreuse) or Green Traditional; Bronze, Copper, Gold, Yellow, Green, or Hazel

Chin: Well developed, with good depth, forming a perpendicular line with the upper lip and tip of the nose.

Muzzle: Rounded, medium in length; in line with wedge. **Profile:** Straight nose to bridge, followed by a concave curve to the brow. Convex curve to the forehead.

Appearance of a flat plane between the ears.

Neck: In proportion to head and torso.

BODY:

Torso: Medium-long to long, substantial. Broad chest. Fat pad on lower abdomen acceptable. Females may be smaller than males.

Legs: Substantial boning, in proportion to body, hind legs slightly longer than front legs.

Feet: Large, round, tufting desirable.

Tail: Equal to length of body. Thicker at base, with slight taper.

Boning: Substantial.

Musculature: Well-muscled with solid weight.

COAT:

Length: Semi-long, allow for shorter coats on unaltered adults and seasonal variations. Correct coat texture is more important than coat length. **Texture:** Silky soft. Minimal undercoat gives the coat body, but coat still falls smoothly. Not wooly or cottony.

COLOR/PATTERN:

SOLID POINT/SOLID DIVISION

(RD) Pointed: Ears, mask, legs, feet and tail to be darker, well-defined color. Chest bib and chin areas may be somewhat lighter in color.

Even, lighter color on the body with minimal shading. Soft shadings of color are allowed. Definite contrast between body and point color. Allow for darker body color in older cats. Allow for undeveloped color in young cats.

(CB) Mink: Even, medium shade of body color, showing contrast to points. Allow for darker body color in older cats. Allow for undeveloped color in kittens and young cats.

(CB) Sepia: Body color closer to that of extremities, showing slighter contrast to points. Allow for darker body color in older cats. Allow for undeveloped color in kittens and young cats.

(CB) Traditional: Even solid color for solid-colored coats

ANY COLOR AND WHITE DIVISION:

Mited Pattern:

Head: May have a broken or evenly matched white blaze on nose and/or between eyes. White not to extend into the inner corner of the eye, nose leather or whisker pads. Chin must be white.

Front Feet: Evenly matched white mittens not to extend above bend of paw. All toes to be white.

Back Legs: White goes up to and around the hocks entirely and extends no higher than mid-thigh.

Body: White stripe extending from chin through chest and length of belly.

Bicolor Pattern:

Head: White inverted "V" on face that completely surrounds the pink nose leather and does not extend beyond the outer edge of the eye on either side. The "V" to be as symmetrical as possible. White chin. **Body:** Chest, stomach, and ruff are white. Saddle may include white or shading in body color.

Feet and Legs: All white preferred.

Paw Pads: Pink preferred.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The ideal cat of this breed group is a large semi-longhaired cat with a sweet personality. They are a well-balanced cat of moderate type, with no extremes, and no one feature overpowering another. The breed grows large and heavy but is slow to mature and may not reach full weight and size for four years. Full color is not reached until 3 years old. They are a muscular cat with little fat except on the lower abdomen fatty pad.

ALLOWANCES

General: Seasonal changes in coat length, shorter coats on unaltered adults and kittens. Females may be smaller than males.

Mited and Bicolor Patterns only:

Feet and Legs: Small spots of point color in designated white areas.

Paw Pads: Spots of point color on paw pads or colored paw pads.

PENALIZE:

General: Very small ears, any eye shape other than oval, Roman nose, straight profile, cobby body, short legs, short tail, woolly/cottony coat texture. **Mited:** Lack of white belly stripe; white on ears and/or tail. **Bicolor:** White beyond the outside edge of the eye. White on ears and/or tail.

WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW)

General/Doming: RD - Any eye color other than blue. CB: Mink - Any eye color other than blue-green to green-blue (aqua). **Sepia:** Any eye color other than:

Gold, Gold-Green (chartreuse) or Green, Traditional. Any eye color other than:

Bronze, Copper, Gold, Yellow, Green, or Hazel

Pointed: Any white. **Mited:** Lack of white chin. **Bicolor:** Any dark markings inside the white "V" including the chin.

DISQUALIFY (DQ): Crossed eyes. Visible or severe tail faults. Severe cow hocks.



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.

THE RAGDOLL BREED GROUP STANDARD (RD/CB)

The Ragdoll (RD) is a large semi longhair, blue eyed pointed cat of moderate type. The Cherubim (CB) is a large semi-longhair, mink, sepia, or traditional colored cat of moderate type.
The breed standard outlines the aesthetic ideal toward which breeders strive to achieve.

POINT BREAKDOWN IN THE STANDARD:

- ❖ Head - 40
- ❖ Body - 35
- ❖ Coat/Color/Pattern - 25

100 points = 100%



CHERUBIM DESCRIPTION

- ❖ An intelligent, large semi-long haired mink, sepia, or Traditional (solid) colored cat of moderate type with a sweet temperament.
- ❖ May take up to four years to grow large and heavy, as it is slow to mature and may not reach full weight and size until that time; furthermore, Cherubim are muscular, but tend to have a lower abdominal fatty pad.

- ❖ Their coat colors consist of Seal, Blue, Chocolate, Lilac, Cinnamon, Fawn, Red, Cream, and Tortie in the Solid, Bicolor, and Mitted patterns. Full color is not reached until 3 years of age. They can be Mink, Sepia, or Solid in Tortie, Torbie, or overlying Lynx, also known as tabby, patterns.



BREED STANDARD: COLOR/PATTERN SOLID DIVISION

- ❖ **(CB) Mink:** Even medium shade of body color showing contrast to points. Allow for darker body in color in older cats. Allow for underdeveloped color in kittens and young cats.
 - ❖ **(CB) Sepia:** Body color closer to that of extremities, showing slighter contrast to points. Allow for darker body color in older cats. Allow for undeveloped color in kittens and cats.
-
- ❖ **(CB) Traditional:** Even solid color for solid colored coats.



BREED STANDARD: COAT

- ❖ **Length:** Semi-long, allow for shorter coats on unaltered adults and seasonal variations.
- ❖ **Correct** coat texture is more important than coat length.
- ❖ **Texture:** Silky soft. Minimal undercoat gives the coat body, but coat still falls smoothly. Not wooly or cottony.

- ❖ **ALLOWANCES:** General: Seasonal changes in coat length, shorter coats on unaltered adults and kittens.
- ❖ **PENALIZE:** General: Wooly/cottony coat texture.
- ❖ **WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW)** Colorpoint/Solid: Any white. Mitted: Lack of white chin. Bicolor: Any dark markings inside the white 'V' including the chin.



CLAIMS FROM BREEDERS ON COAT TEXTURE



MINK Cherubim have a softer coat than pointed Ragdolls, much like that of a mink stole.



SEPIA Cherubim have the most lush coat of all in the Ragdoll Breed Group.



TRADITIONAL (Solid) Cherubim have a sleeker, heavier coat than the other Cherubim.

GENETIC FACTS:

The texture of the coat of a traditional (solid) cat is different than that of a pointed, as the hair shafts fall smoothly due to the larger content of melanin granules in the hair shafts.

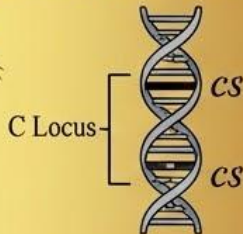
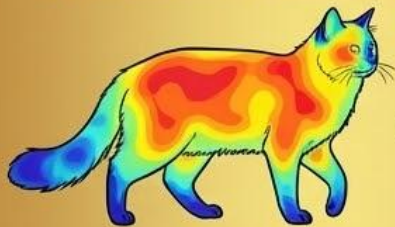
There are mutations in genes that affect hair growth and pigmentation that influence coat texture. The shape and arrangement of the hair shaft itself influence texture. The size, shape, content, and distribution of melanin granules do affect the texture of the hair.



This also applies to the coats of the mink and the sepia, but it is much more difficult to perceive the difference in coat texture through our sense of touch alone – to physically feel a difference; whereas, our sense of vision can clearly perceive a difference between the pointed, mink, sepia, and solid colorations. This is due to the lesser content of melanin granules in the hair shaft of the mink and sepia than that of the traditional (solid) cat.

COLORPOINT GENE: PIGMENT RESTRICTING PATTERNS

THE 'CS' GENE & TYROSINASE MECHANISM



- ❖ Point gene carried on C locus, shown as 'cs'. Needs two 'cs' alleles for expression.
- ❖ Recessive pattern, error in Tyrosinase (TYR) production.
- ❖ Mutated enzyme is heat-sensitive; active only in cooler areas (extremities).

PHENOTYPIC EXPRESSION & VARIATIONS

- ❖ Pointed kittens born white (uniformly warm womb); pigment develops in cooler areas with age.
- ❖ Points not limited to solid/dark colors. Can be red, fawn, tortoiseshell, or tabby.
- ❖ Mink, Sepia, and Solid kittens born with color. Mink kittens carry 'cs' (pointed gene), exhibiting darker pigment in cooler areas.



MINK CHERUBIM: GENETIC FORMATION & PHENOTYPE

THE MINK PATTERN & PIGMENT DISTRIBUTION

- ❖ Formed when a cat carries genes 'cs' (Siamese) and 'cb' (Burmese).
- ❖ Pigment distribution is intermediate between a sepia and a pointed cat.



POINTED
(cs/cs)

MINK
(cs/cb)

SEPIA
(cb/cb)

- ❖ Phenotypically characterized by color dilution like the 'cs' gene.

ADDITIVE RELATIONSHIP & EXPRESSION

- ❖ Less sensitivity to skin temperature, resulting in a darker body color closer to points.
- ❖ An 'additive' relationship: 'cs' + 'cb' = mink (heterozygous).
- ❖ Coat color expression is halfway between a point and a sepia.
- ❖ Technically, Mink and Sepia are considered pointed cats.



LIGHTER
(Pointed)

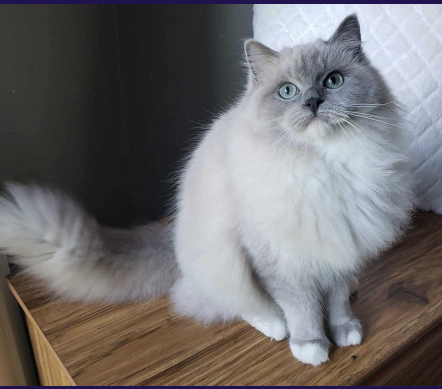
ADDITIVE COLOR EXPRESSION



MINK
(Intermediate)



DARKER
(Sepia)

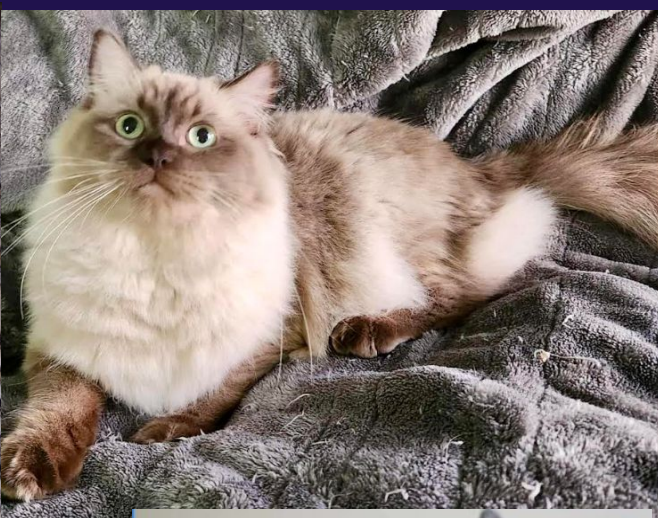


SEPIA CHERUBIM

The 'cb' Gene & Burmese Phenotype.

- Also carried on the C locus, is the gene for the sepia pattern ('cb').
- This is the darkest of the pigment-restricting patterns.
- Pigment is only paled at the warmest body point—the abdomen.
- The Burmese phenotype results from reduced pigment production, changing black pigment to sepia and orange to yellow.
- Burmese points are darker than the body.





SOLID CHERUBIM

C/C: FULL COLOR

Cat does not carry Burmese (sepia) or Siamese alleles.



C/cb: CARRIER OF BURMESE (sepia) color.



C/cs: CARRIER OF SIAMESE colorpoint restriction.

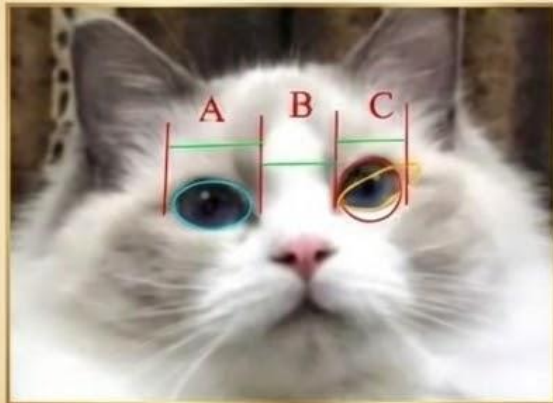




EYE SHAPE & PLACEMENT (7 POINTS)

Large oval. Moderately wide apart. Emphasis on correct shape, size, and placement—oval, not round or slanted.

CORRECT OVAL SHAPE & PLACEMENT



A, B, C indicate optimal width and oval form.

INCORRECT / LESS IDEAL SHAPE (ROUNDER)

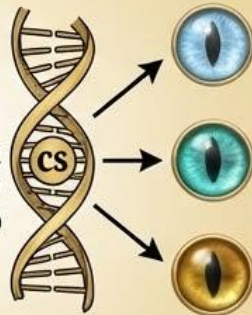


Note the rounder, less oval shape.

The Role of the Siamese (cs) Gene in the Ragdoll and Cherubim Cat Eye Color

GENETIC INFLUENCE ON PIGMENTATION

Pointed Ragdoll cats, like the solid Cherubim cats, inherit the genes for producing a specific amount of pigment, or melanin, in their eyes. Pointed Ragdolls and mink Cherubim carry the Siamese gene mutation, so they do not have enough pigment to achieve green to the rich copper colored eyes of their Traditional (solid) counterparts; however, the mink Cherubim do produce a range of eye color from light blue to green-blue (aqua), and the sepia Cherubim can exhibit a range from green-blue (aqua) to gold.



SELECTIVE BREEDING & EYE COLOR SPECTRUM

“The range of eye color occurring in a population of cats can be influenced by selective breeding. The spectrum of possible eye colors starts with blue eyes and continues through green eyes...in order of increasing amounts of eye pigmentation. The deepest blue eyes in pointed cats are a result of the albinism allele combined with a low inherent amount of pigmentation” (Shelton et al. 135).



EYE COLOR CHART

BY SARAH HEARTWELL

COMMON RANGE OF EYE COLOURS



yellow

Eye colour is linked to coat colour and is more intense in pedigree cats. In random-bred cats (moggies), the eye colour may be less intense and show mixed tones.

SIAMESE/TONKINESE/BURMESE



Burmese Golden

The Tonkinese aqua (turquoise) colour is intensifies intermediate between Siamese blue and Burmese copper.

ALBINISM & ODD EYES



Pink-eyed albino

The structure of the cat's eye means that an unpigmented iris appears lilac rather than pink. Pink-eyed albino cats are uncommon.



Feund in cats with white, or mostly whits, fur colour.

Feund in cats with white, or mostly whits, fur colour.

TICA UNIFORM COLOR DESCRIPTIONS (UCD) & EYE COLOR UPDATES

= THE CHERUBIM EYE COLOR EVOLUTION =

The TICA Uniform Color Descriptions (UCD) might need to be updated to accommodate the mink and sepia Cherubim eye color that has been bred to attain the bluer hues through selective breeding to meet the prior TICA Ragdoll Breed Standard.



Example: Blue-eyed Mink Cherubim

CURRENT TICA UCD (CATEGORY 71)

71 Categories, Divisions and Colors.

71.7 TICA recognizes piedpoint and bicolorpoint pet cats in fully-realized color divisions. Based on the TICA Uniform Color Descriptions (UCD) might need to be updated to accommodate the mink and sepia Cherubim eye color that has been bred to attain the bluer hues through selective breeding to meet the prior TICA Ragdoll Breed Standard.

71.1.1 Categories and Genotypes.

Category	Genotype
Tabby	ES; GC; DP
Point	ES; GC
Bicolor	ES; GC
Point	ES; GC

71.1.2 Tabby cats typically have brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Bicolor cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Point cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Bicolor cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes.

71.1.3 Sepia cats typically have gold or gold green eyes. Bicolor cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Point cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes.

71.1.4 Mink cats typically have blue eyes. Bicolor cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Point cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes.

71.1.5 Blue-eyed cats typically have blue eyes. Bicolor cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes. Point cats are typically brown, copper, gold, red, green, or blue eyes.

BREED STANDARD

EYES (7 Points)

Preference given to deeper tones in all colors.

❖ **RD - Blue**

❖ **CB - *Mink*:** Blue-Green to Green-Blue (Aqua)

❖ ***Sepia*:** Gold, Gold-Green (Chartreuse) or Green.

❖ ***Traditional*:** Bronze, Copper, Gold, Yellow, Green, or Hazel.



***WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW): RD – Any eye color other than blue.
CB; Mink – Any eye color other than blue-green to green-blue (aqua), Sepia; Any eye color other than: Gold, Gold-Green (chartreuse) or green, Traditional; Any eye color other than Bronze, Copper, Gold Yellow, Green, or Hazel.

MINK Eye Spectrum

This row reflects RD/CB
Breed Group Standard

Blue-green



Green-blue (Aqua)



SEPIA Eye Spectrum

This row reflects RD/CB Breed
Group Standard

Gold



Gold-green



Chartreuse



Green



SOLID (Traditional) Eye Spectrum

This row reflects RD/CB Breed
Group Standard



Bronze



Copper



Gold



Yellow



Green

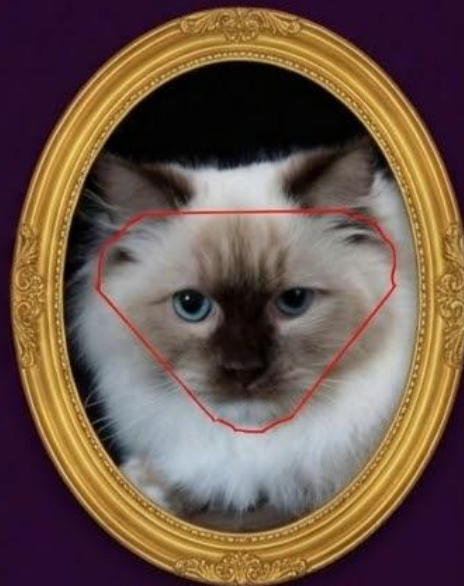
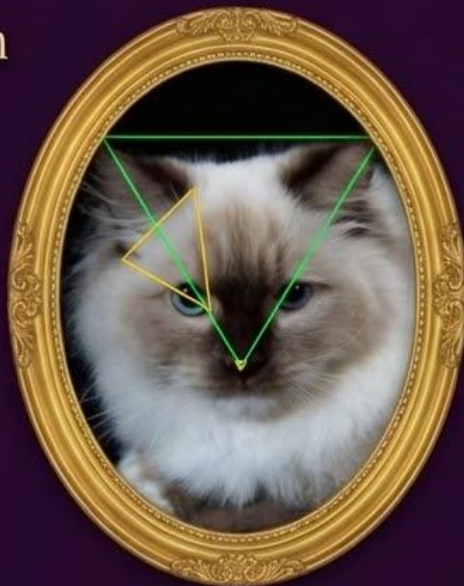
HEAD: PROFILE — 9 POINTS

- ❖ Chin well developed and in line with nose.
- ❖ Straight nose to bridge, followed by change of direction.
- ❖ Gentle curve to brow.
- ❖ Slightly rounded forehead (not domed).
- ❖ Ears slightly tilted forward.



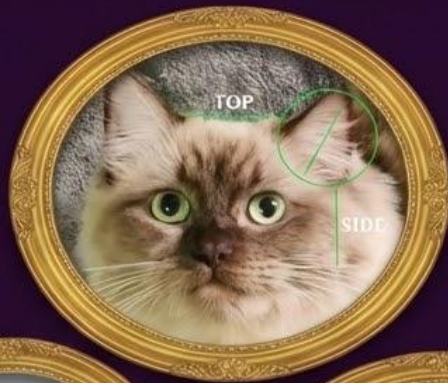
HEAD SHAPE PHOTOS (9 Points)

- ❖ Broad modified wedge, with slightly rounded contours.
- ❖ With the appearance of a *flat plane* in area between ears when looking at the head from the front.
- ❖ Skull medium in size.



BREED STANDARD: EARS — 5 POINTS

- ❖ Medium in size, broad at base.
- ❖ Rounded tip.
- ❖ Set as much on top of the head as on the side.
- ❖ Slightly tilted forward.



HISTORY OF THE TRUE RAGDOLL

The original Ragdolls were black cats. The mother that produced these was then mated to a male with the Sacred Cat of Burma look, Daddy War Bucks. A kitten, a male, of this breeding was so beautiful that the look of the original Ragdolls were changed. The female blacks were mated to him and he became the line bred father of five generations. Seven years of breeding went into the making of the Ragdoll before the first pair was sold under franchise contract. Now after 15 years and \$80,000 worth of the female stock stolen, we are going back to the original blacks and using the black females to line breed.

Ragdolls are a phenomenon. They can only be bred in a line breeding program to keep their disposition and health. They cannot be bred any other way and to breed to another breed will lose all that the Ragdoll is. They can only be preserved by keeping the lines pure. Because some breeders did not continue line breeding as per the contracts, the franchises were discontinued. There are now two different breeds of cats on the market bearing the name Ragdoll. Those that are not breeding the same as the IRCA program recommends are not registered with IRCA.

We have developed several new lines for those who want or prefer something different. We also decided to keep breeding the black line for those who want a less expensive cat.

THIS IS THE ONLY STANDARD FOR THE AUTHENTIC RAGDOLLS AS ORIGINATED BY ANN BAKER, AND CAN NEVER CHANGE...

TRADEMARK#1026916 US PATENT OFFICE
CAL. TM#53044
COPYRIGHT#GP 100558

International Ragdoll Cat Association, Inc.
156 J Street
Riverside, Ca. 92507

Characteristics and Requirements....

RAGDOLL CATS



Show Standard Cherubims

Ann Baker

NEW RAGDOLL LINES

BODY CONFORMATIONS ARE THE SAME AS REGULAR RAGDOLL CATS AS SET FORTH IN THE STANDARD EXCEPT THE BEAR LINE.

BEAR

BODY CONFORMATION: FUR IS THICKER, EARS A LITTLE SHORTER, EYES A LITTLE ROUNDER, FACE A LITTLE FLATTER (BUT NOT SHORT ROUND TYPE) BODY LENGTH SHORTER, (STILL STOCKY) EYE COLOR: BLUE. BODY COLOR: LIGHT TAN TO BROWN WHEN CROWN OR LILAC COLORS

MINK

BODY COLOR: DARK LUSH BROWN, POINTS A DARKER SHADING, THEY ARE BORN BROWN. EYE COLOR: BLUE

LYNX POINT

CLEARLY DEFINED STRIPPING ON POINTS (FACE, LEGS & TAIL) EYE COLOR: BLUE BODY COLORS: LIGHTER COLORS TO PLAIN

BLACKS

BLACK IS BLACK COLOR WITH BROWN OR SILVER TONES OR UNDERCOAT. EYE COLOR: GOLD OR BLUE

CINNIMONS

BODY COLOR: CINNIMON POINTS. EYE COLOR: GOLD OR BLUE

PARTY COLORS

BODY COLORS VARY CINNIMON, BLACK AND WHITE (TORTIE) MARKINGS THE STANDARD IS THE SAME. EYE COLOR: GOLD OR BLUE... (THE ALL OVER PARTY IS EQUAL TO THE DARK FACE & LEGS)

ALL THREE LOOKS OF THE RAGDOLL CAN BE SHOWN. THEY ARE THE TRUE RAGDOLL FOR NOW AND THE PAST. IT TAKES ONE OF THE WHITE LEGS AND ONE OF THE BLACK LEGS (SO TO SPEAK) TO MAKE THE WHITE MITTENS. SO WE WILL BE GETTING ALL THREE LOOKS, BUT AFTER THE SEVEN GENERATIONS DIE OUT THEN ALL RAGDOLLS WILL HAVE WHITE MITTENS AND WHITE NOSE STRIPES.

CHARACTERISTICS and REQUIREMENTS RAGDOLL CATS

The most important characteristic of "Ragdoll Cats" is their disposition. They are just like their name implies, a ragdoll. You can pick them up and they will go limp in your arms. They will not fight. Be it dog, cat, or human. They have no fear of anything. They do not seem to feel pain as other animals do. Above all, they are affectionate, alert, and love to play.

Disposition	20
Head	10
Ears	10
Eye Color & Shape	5
Body	10
Legs & Feet	10
Tail	5
Color	10
Coat	10
Condition	10

HEAD: Broad between eyes, and ears, tapering down to a round chin with a moderate beak. A male's head is approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " wider on each side than that of a female. Forehead slopes gradually. There is also a flat spot on top of the head.

Nose: Medium in length, nostrils low on nose.

Jaws: Heavy

Chin: The bottom part of their lip must be white to light brown, running to the ruff in their neck. The chin is full and well developed.

Cheeks: Full

Ears: Medium in Length with a slight tilt forward.

Eyes: Blue. The more blue the better. The eyelid has a slight upward tilt at the ends.

TYPE:

Body: The underside should be mostly white. They are extremely heavy in the stomach and hind sections. The male is huskier than the female. She is daintier and smaller than the male. Males at 2 to 3 years should be 36" long, nose to tail tip and/or leg span. Normal stand height 12" back and 15" head height. Females run 1" less in height and length.

Legs: Medium-long and heavy. The back legs are longer than the front legs.

Paws: Firm, round and thick. All four must be white. The front should be lacy white mittens. The back should be short boots. There should be toe tufts between the toes.

Tail: Medium-long, full, and carried like a plume.

Coat: Medium-long to long. Extremely thick, soft, like rabbit fur. Doesn't mat. Allowance should be made for seasonal variations in length and thickness of coat.

COLOR: Slight contrast between body color and points.

Points Except Paws: Mask, ears, front legs (except for lacy mittens and boots) clearly defined, all of the same shade. Mask covers cheeks, nose, and under the eyes, with a blaze going up the forehead. Mask covers whisker pads.

Front Paws: Front paws have white lacy mittens.

Back Paws: White boots must be on both back feet. At least $\frac{1}{2}$ way up to the knee joint.

Lilac Point: Ears, face, tail, and legs dark lilac, with white under stripe from lower chin to tail. White mittens, nose a leather lilac. Eyes, the more blue the better.

Seal Point: Varying body colors from pale fawn to warm brown. Starting light behind the ears and getting darker in gradual stages to the end of the tail. Points are deep seal brown. Mittens and boots pure white. Eyes blue, the more blue the better.

Penalize: No white chest

Siamese type head

Withhold Winners: Lack of white mittens

Lack of white boots

Kinked or abnormal tail

Crossed eyes

Eye color anything but blue

Special Note: The Ragdoll Cat does not reach full-growth until the age of 3 years. When they are born, they are almost white. Every time they shed, their fur comes in darker. The first things on them to darken are their ears, face, feet, and tail. Allowance should be made for this in judging.

The above Standard of Perfection has been made by me, Ann Baker, as the originator and founder of the Ragdoll Cats.

Ann Baker
Ann Baker

LOCKE'S COVE CATTERY

Ragdolls,
Mink Line,
IRCA



Eric, sire for kittens from Locke's Cove Cattery.
Colorpoints, mitted, unmitted; Bicolors; Solids, including Dark Brown. All cats raised uncaged in home. Large, very affectionate.

Barrie and Miriam Locke

CATS Magazine, April 1987

31

Advertisement for IRCA Mink Line (above).
Mink and solid lines were IRCA Ragdolls, as
per the ad on the right.

I.R.C.A. RAGDOLL™



Known for its large size, soft rabbitlike, nonmatting fur, wonderful disposition and the ability to go completely limp when held, the I.R.C.A. Ragdoll's™ roots can be traced back to California in 1964 and a single white domestic longhaired queen named Josephine. Josephine was a very prolific breeder producing kittens both prior to and after being injured in an automobile accident, which resulted in Josephine being confined in a medical research facility. It was only after being released from this laboratory that she began producing kittens with the unique Ragdoll™ characteristics that we know of today. Ann Baker, founder of the I.R.C.A. and the Ragdoll™ breed, realized the difference in these kittens and developed a breeding program which maintained the unique characteristics of those kittens. Ann Baker obtained a trademark for her breed and breeding program. The International Ragdoll™ Cat Association (I.R.C.A.) was originated in 1971 as a registrar of breeds that are different from all other breeds and cannot be bred as other cats to maintain the breed. I.R.C.A. breeders strictly adhere to this breeding program and we can guarantee our kittens for 1 year against any genetic defects. Josephine mated with males of various backgrounds and color patterns after her release from the laboratory. Ann Baker therefore decided not to limit the genetic pool to blue-eyed colorpoints. I.R.C.A. Ragdolls™ are available in many patterns, including: colorpoints, mitted colorpoints, lynx and bicolor. Colors include: seal, lilac, blue and flame. The non-colorpointed Ragdolls™ are known as Miracle Ragdolls™. Colors include: solid black, blue, red, tortie, tabby and other colors. Remember, **ALL DEMONSTRATE THE UNIQUE RAGDOLL™ CHARACTERISTICS.**

Information and pictures, \$5.

*The
Definitive Guide
to Ragdolls*



By
Laura Wallace, Robin Dickson & David Sillard

*Let's Do It
God's Way*

*Ann Baker, D.F.
Director of Feline I*

**CROOK'S
PARADISE**

ANN BAKER

**IRCA
and the
Ragdoll
Documentary**

Ann Baker

ROBINSON'S
**Genetics for
Cat Breeders
& Veterinarians**

FOURTH EDITION

CAROLYN M. VELLA
LORRAINE M. SHELTON
JOHN J. MCGONAGLE
TERRY W. STANGLEIN

Original Ragdoll

genuine and authentic
The authentic Ragdoll by A. Baker - The category Cherubim



An indispensable guide for cat owners and breeders
for the preservation of the breed

**BREEDING PROGRAM
FOR THE IRCA
REGISTERED
AUTHENTIC RAGDOLLS**

ANN BAKER

**IRCA
and the
Honey Bears
Documentary**

Ann Baker



CONGRATULATIONS to the first TICA registered Cherubim,
a nine month old Chocolate Sepia Mitted female, who earned
the title of CHAMPION on May 11, 2025:

CASTLEREIGN SANTA ANA WINDS



CONGRATULATIONS to the first TICA registered Cherubim,
a ten month old Seal Mink Bicolor Male, who earned the title of
QUADRUPLE GRAND CHAMPION on December 14, 2025:

OAKCREST THOR'S LEGACY


**Kudos and thank you to
Vlada Synenko Astral
for creating this
invaluable,
comprehensive and
user-friendly tool for
Cherubim and Ragdoll
breeders!**

(Click on the photo to be taken to the
webpage).

CHERUBIM KITTEN COLOR PREDICTOR



www.astralragdolls.com/genetics



We would especially like to express our gratitude to the following
TICA Officials for their constant support, encouragement, guidance,
and belief in our inevitable path to championship status:

TICA President Vicki Jo Harrison

The following TICA Judges:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| • Toni Jones | • Laura Cunningham | • Rene Knapp |
| • Dave Nudleman | • Aline Garel Noel | • Clint Knapp |
| • Alex Marinets | • Carol Lawson | • Kim Chenault |
| • Barb Kissinger | • Christina Baumer | |
| • Nikki Crandall Seibert | • Barbara Ray | |
| • Lorraine Shelton | • Laurie Patton | |
| • Adriana Kajon | • Jamie Christian | |
-

Judge Trainee: Amanda Jimmink

Regional Directors LiesBeth Van Mullen and Christian Cherau

Ragdoll Breed Committee Chairperson: Stormi Nell



Photo Credits:



Chanan, Olek Kuperberg, Larry Johnson, Audra Mitchell, Helmi, and Lady Grace.

Thank you to the following breeders who contributed photos, information in the application to championship, and for showing their cats to aid in obtaining recognition for championship:

Christine Lupo
Elvia Leclair
Amanda Nicodemus
Seanna Grochowski
Lynne Rotas Falls
Heather Ellis
Denise Wolff
Margo Shaw
Nancy Severino
Connie Stallings
Brandy Burroughs Dunn
Kristi Hill Pemberton
Vicky Winchester
Gina Lapan
Kristie Long
Rebecca Silva

Dekoel Smith
Rovena Parmley
Micayla Statler Ash
Kelly Schockman
Sherry Bolt
Val Lhocoi du Gival
Donna Strand
Calypso Joy
Domenic Phelps
Meghan Palensky
Karen Medicch Morris
Karen Jameson Cox
James Hawkins
Claire Michaels
Kacy Kaemke
McKenzie Kahns

Nicole Shambach
Susanne Buchel Macanka
Agnes Vijfschaft
Margareta Helleman
Meghan Palensky
MirJam Pettersson
Kaye Rayner-Oliver
Colleen Joy
Agata Olkowsa Brown
Elizabeth Boatwright
Cindy Tourangeau
Tracy Weigle
Mandy Hipkins
Sharon Hollick Hoover
Morgan Redell
Alexandra Berger

Sandy Roberts
Jamie Lennox
Rintha Smith
Vlada Astral
Lisa Fleming
Natalia Lalicata
Laura Touchberry
Erin Smith
Judy Butler
Karol Bloyer
Sandy Doran
Michelle Pomeroy
Allyson Judy
Wendy Scharr
Stephanie Ingram
Peggy Rust



WORKS CITED

- Bird, Cris Dr.. "Siamese Eye Colors from Whitish Blue to Navy Blue." Journal of the Old Style Siamese. Newsletter of Preossia. <https://www.oldstylesiamese.com/siameye1.html> 2001-2022. PREOSSIA.
- Hartwell, Sarah. "Eye Colors in Cats." 2009. <http://messybeast.com/eye-colours.htm>
- Ishida Y, David VA, Eizirik E, Schäffer AA, Neelam BA, Roelke ME, Hannah SS, O'Brien SJ, Menotti-Raymond M. 2006. A homozygous single-base deletion in MLPH causes the dilute coat color phenotype in the domestic cat. *Genomics* 88:698-705.
- Lyons, L.A., Imes, D.L., Rah, H.C. and Grahn, R.A. 2005. Tyrosinase mutations associated with Siamese and Burmese patterns in the domestic cat (*Felis catus*). *Animal Genetics*, 36:119-126. See additional references cited in this paper.
- Pearce, Wain. "Ragdoll History--Early Years." <https://ragdollhistoricalsociety.net/ragdoll-history-early-years/> 2011-2015 Ragdoll Historical Society (RHS).
15 August 2015.
- Peter Schmitt, M., Grain, F., Arnaud, B., Deleage, G. & Lambert, V.. Mutation in the melanocortin 1 receptor is associated with amber colour in the Norwegian Forest Cat. *Animal Genetics* doi:10.1111/j.1365-2052.2009/01864.x
- Robinson's Genetics for Cat Breeders and Veterinarians. 1999. Fourth edition. Eds. Vells, C.M., Shelton, L.M., McGonagle, J.J. and Stanglein, T.W. Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford.
- Rollins, Tina. Original Ragdoll Genuine and Authentic: *The Authentic Ragdoll by A. Baker – The Category Cherubim*. Contributors: Lissy Uhe and Christiane Johannemann Lind. 2022. Books on Demand, Norderstedt.
- Wallace, Lorna; Pickering, Robin, and Pollard, David. *The Definitive Guide to Ragdolls*. Ragdoll World. 1995 at Pontefract, West Yorks. England.
- Stiles, Maxine. <http://ragdollstexas.com/Welcome.html#dilution>