



*There is simply nothing' like a Bombay...  
America's original 'Parlor Panther'.*

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# THE BOMBAY

**CFA Breed Presentation**

**Breed Council Secretary: Jeri Zottoli**

**Breed slide presentation by:**

**Jeri Zottoli**

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# INTRODUCTION



The original presentation was presented in June 1999 at the Sacramento CA annual judges' workshop. Patti DeWitt created the original workshop booklet and gave thanks to Leslie Falteisek and Melinda Webster for the drawings. The workshop was updated in June 2013 by Jeri Zottoli, with the help of Teresa Sweeney and again in 2020 by Jeri Zottoli and Pat Jacobberger.



# HISTORY

The Bombay was originated as a hybrid between the Burmese and the American Shorthair. With its jet black gleaming coat, gold to copper eyes, solid body and sweet facial expression, the ideal Bombay has an unmistakable look of its own. It is not a natural breed but a genetic hybrid, with distinctive features that separate it from its foundation (parent) breeds.

In the late 1950s Nikki Horner (Shawnee cattery, Louisville KY) has a vision to create a jet black cat with a gleaming coat, gold to copper eyes, a solid body and a sweet facial expression. She was the originator of the Bombay breed, a hybrid created by crossing a sable Burmese to a black American Shorthair. She felt that only third generation black American Shorthairs should be used to prevent tabby pattern or other tabby colors. The Burmese should be only homozygous sable, so as not to compromise eye color, paw pad color and "black to the root." After years of selective breeding, she developed the unmistakable look she wanted - the "patent leather kids with the new penny eyes". The breed has distinctive features that separate it from its foundation (parent) breeds. In 1970 the Bombay was accepted for CFA registration, with championship status granted in May 1976.

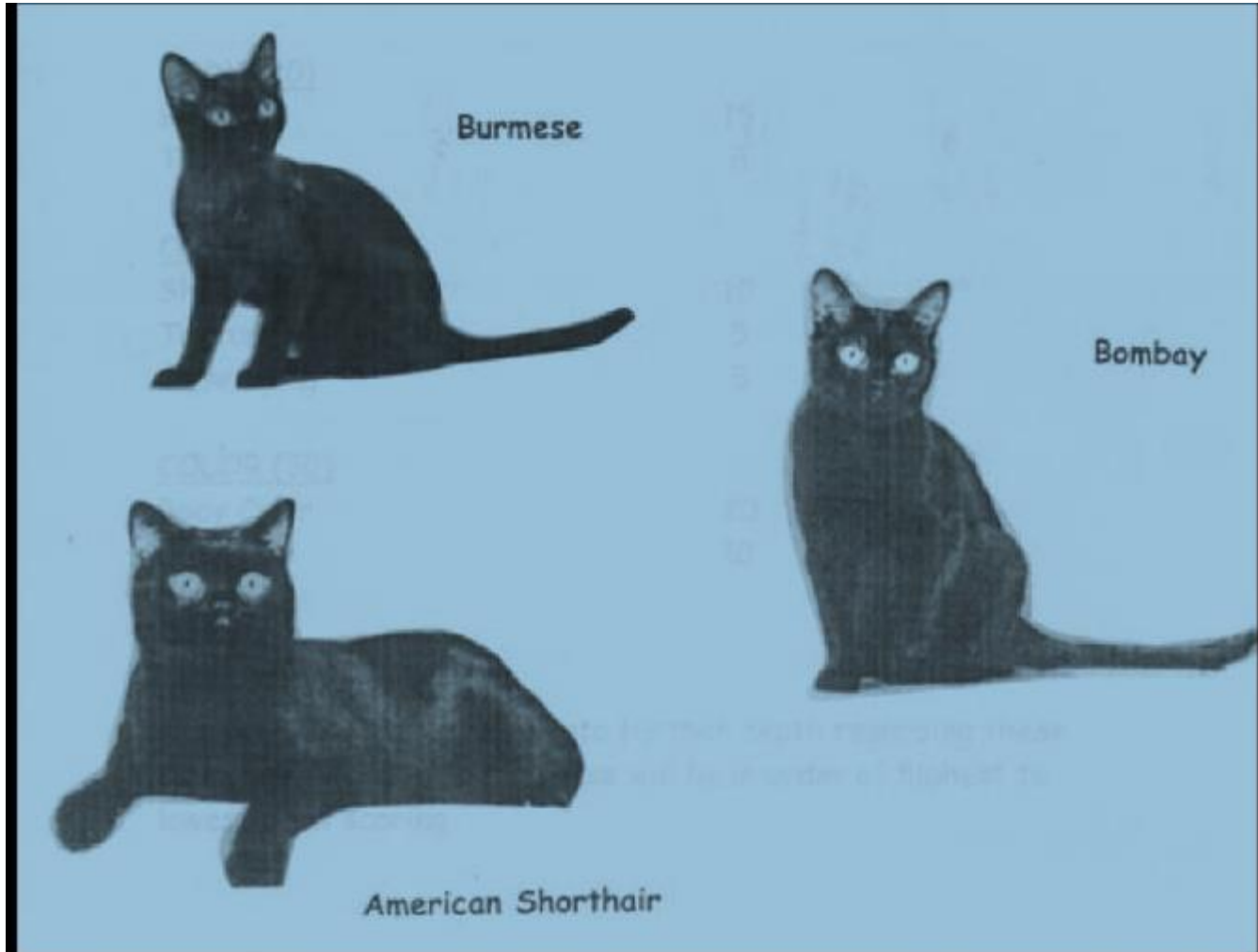
# HISTORY -continued



There has only been one change to the Bombay breed since its inception in 1974. The change was made in 1996 to emphasize that the Bombay is NOT a black extreme Burmese with a distinctive nose break nor is it a black American Shorthair with a concave profile (with a hard textured coat).

A Bombay is a combination of the two and has its own distinctive look. We cannot emphasize that enough. In several places throughout this presentation we will point out the difference between the Bombay and the Burmese standard.

# Comparison of the Parent Breeds to the Bombay



# BOMBAY ATTRIBUTES



GENERAL: the Bombay was originated as a hybrid between the Burmese and the American Shorthair. With its jet black, gleaming coat, gold to copper eyes, solid body and sweet facial expression, the ideal Bombay has an unmistakable look of its own. It is not a natural breed but a genetic hybrid, with distinctive features that separate it from its foundation (parent) breeds. The Bombay is a medium-size cat, well-balanced, friendly, alert, and outgoing; muscular and having a surprising weight for its size. The body and tail should be of medium length, the head rounded with medium-sized, wide-set ears, a moderate nose “stop” which is visible (not a break), large rounded wide-set eyes, and an overall look of excellent proportions and carriage.

# POINT DISTRIBUTION

## POINT SCORE

### HEAD AND EARS (25)

Roundness of head.....	7
Full face and proper profile .....	7
Ears .....	7
Chin.....	4

### EYES (5)

Placement and shape .....	5
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### BODY (20)

Body.....	15
Tail .....	5

### COAT (20)

Shortness.....	10
Texture .....	5
Close lying .....	5

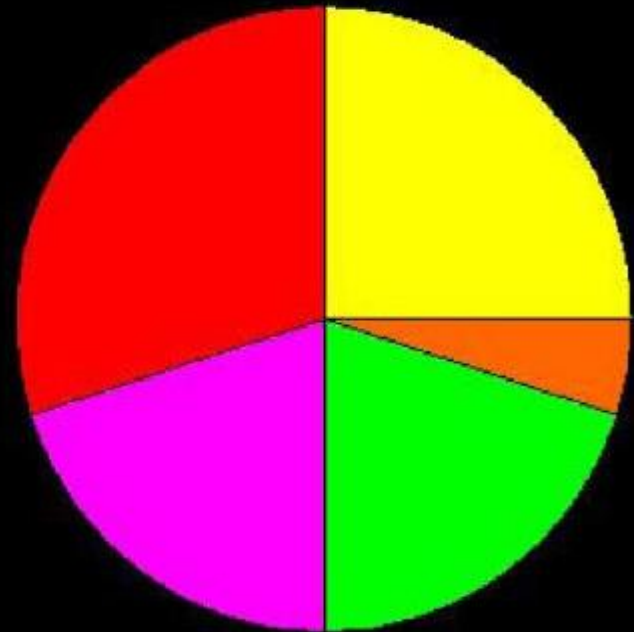
### COLOR (30)

Body color .....	20
Eye color .....	10

# POINT DISTRIBUTION-continued

## Point Chart

<b>Color</b>	<b>30 points</b>
<b>Head-ears</b>	<b>25 points</b>
<b>Body</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Coat</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Eyes</b>	<b>5 points</b>





# HEAD – 7 POINTS



HEAD: the head should be pleasingly rounded with no sharp angles. The face should be full with considerable breadth between the eyes, blending gently into a broad well-developed moderately rounded muzzle that maintains the rounded contours of the head. In profile there should be a moderate visible stop; however, it should not present a “pugged” or “snubbed” look. Moderate stop is not to be considered a “break,” but a slight indentation at the bridge of the nose between the eyes thus providing a change of direction from the rounded head to the medium, rounded muzzle. The end of the nose is slightly rounded down thus completing the roundness of the head.

# FULL FACE AND PROPER PROFILE – 7 POINTS



1. No pronounced stop
2. Acceptable stop
3. Acceptable stop

Profiles should be a moderate visible stop; however it should not present a “pugged” or “snubbed” look.

Moderate stop is not to be considered a “break” but a slight indentation at the bridge of the nose between the eyes thus providing a change of direction from the rounded head to the medium muzzle.

# FULL FACE AND PROPER PROFILE – 7 POINTS (continued)



Muzzle too narrow



Broad, rounded muzzle



# FULL FACE AND PROPER PROFILE- continued



# EARS – 7 POINTS



EARS: the ears should be medium in size and set well apart on a rounded skull, alert, tilting slightly forward, broad at the base, and with slightly rounded tips.

# EARS - continued



Too Small



Too Pointed



Acceptable



# CHIN – 4 points



Receding  
(Over bite)



Protruding  
(Under bite)



Proper Chin

CHIN: the chin should be firm, neither receding nor protruding, reflecting a proper bite.

# EYES – 5 POINTS



EYES: set far apart with rounded aperture.  
**Eye color: ranging from**  
gold to copper, the greater the depth and  
brilliance the better.



# EYES - continued



# BODY – 15 points



**BODY:** medium in size, muscular in development, neither compact nor rangy. Allowance is to be made for larger size in males.

**LEGS:** in proportion to the body and tail.

**PAWS:** round. Toes, five in front, four in back.

# TAIL – 5 POINTS



TAIL: straight, medium in length; neither short nor “whippy.”

The tail length should be in balance with the body length. The body length is medium as well as the tail.

# BODY AND TAIL - continued



# COAT – 20 POINTS

Shortness – 10

Texture – 5

Close lying - 5



COAT: fine, short,  
satin-like texture;  
close-lying with a  
shimmering  
patent leather sheen.

**COLOR: the mature  
specimen should be  
black to the roots.**

Kitten coats should  
darken and become  
sleeker with age.

**Nose leather and  
paw pads: black.**

# COAT - continued

Fine, short, satin like  
texture



# PENALIZE/DISQUALIFY

**PENALIZE:** excessive cobbliness or ranginess.

**DISQUALIFY:** kinked or abnormal tail. Lockets or spots. Incorrect number of toes. Nose leather or paw pads other than black. Green eyes. Improper bite. Extreme break that interferes with normal breathing and tearing of eyes.

# HANDLING TIPS

- Use firm support when removing a Bombay from the cage. This is a "bottom heavy" cat. Don't swing them around or try to handle them with one hand.
- Please do not pin the cat to the judging table. The cat will stand on its own. Use a toy - the Bombay loves to play and show off and does not need a "heavy handed" approach to handling. While they play, they will show you their gleaming black coat, well muscled body and wide open eyes.
- Please don't grab the head - use a light touch with the entire cat, including checking the tail for faults.
- The Bombay is a sweet tempered breed and loves to show off - a judge's job is "easy" with this breed as they will show themselves to you with little prompting. They are an active, alert, affectionate breed who love to flirt and be the "center of attention".
- Please enjoy our breed!





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*Helmi*

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