



All About the **Oriental**

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The Oriental

About the Oriental

The Oriental cat breed is a very unique creature. Its sleek, muscular appearance and tall ears, make this breed very elegant. Very similar to the Siamese, Orientals have a personality that demands your attention at any given moment, arriving at your bedside first thing in the morning to chat, or patiently wait by the door when you return from work. This breed was originally developed with the intent of discovering all the colors and patterns that were possible for a feline.

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Average Weight | 8-15 Lbs | Temperament | Active, talkative, very playful. |
| Average Height | Medium-sized | Good with Children? | Yes! Excellent with children |
| Coat | Short & long breeds. Short-haired has very easy care. | Health Concerns | Live long, healthy lives, no specific health issues. |

Oriental Characteristics

Orientals originally sported a short, sleek coat when they were first bred. Today, due to further breeding, there are long-haired varieties as well. They possess a long, slender body with long legs and a long tail. The Oriental can be found in nearly 300 different colors and patterns. They may appear to be very proper and too good for play, and nothing could be farther from the truth. Orientals love having your full attention, and are very active cats. This breed does not like being left alone for long periods of time.

Selecting Your Oriental Kitten

Making the decision to either adopt or purchase your kitten from a breeder is a matter of personal choice. Both options are discussed here, along with some positives and negatives for both.

A Few Words About Adoption

Every year, thousands of animals are either captured or turned in by their owners to be adopted. These pets can make wonderful companions and desire a loving home to call their own. When considering adoption, you should choose an animal shelter or rescue in your nearby community that you trust and one that has a long-standing reputation for providing exceptional care to the animals. Shelters that have an on-site vet clinic are a plus. Many facilities will require the pet to be spayed or neutered before the adoption is complete. This fee will be included in the adoption costs.



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A Few Words About Breeders

Some people will prefer that their Oriental comes from a reputable breeder. This can be the best choice for owners wishing to show their cat or become breeders themselves. Breeders can provide you with a wealth of knowledge around Orientals, including health issues, family history, and the various breed characteristics. You can find cat breeders by looking in the newspaper, searching on the internet, or checking with the local vet. You should have a list of questions ready to ask the breeder when you visit or call. It is good to inquire about the length of time the breeder has been in business, if the parents will be available for you to see, and what kind of health guarantees and records will be provided. Expect a good breeder to have several questions for you as well, such as the environment in which the cat will reside, and how much time you will be able to spend with the cat.

Purchasing your Oriental from a breeder or adopting are both good choices. You need to be sure to do your research first and to avoid making a quick decision based on immediate availability. Sometimes it is better to build a relationship first with a chosen breeder and plan for an upcoming litter

How to Choose your Oriental

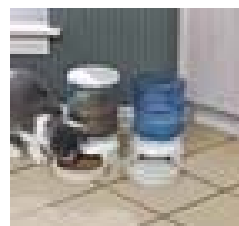
Choosing a new kitten can be one of the most exciting events in your family. It is important that you have done your homework upfront and know what kind of cat you are looking for. Some things to look for when selecting your new kitten are:

- No major skin conditions; clean, healthy coat
- Clean and clear eyes
- Coughing or difficult breathing (signs of respiratory infections)
- Paw pads soft and no deep cracking or infections
- Limping, little or no movement (signs of injury or birth defects)
- Proper weight/size

Bringing Your Oriental Home

Kittens are explorers, and everything for them is a potential adventure. Be sure to provide a safe and secure environment for your new friend. In an effort to prepare for the care of your new best friend, you should create a checklist and learn about the special needs of your pet. Make sure that your floors are free of clutter. This includes shoes and electric cords, as kittens like to explore and can sometimes chew. Use the rule "out of sight, out of mind" when introducing your kitten to his new environment. If you have other pets already, you should be sure that their food is in a safe place, at least in the beginning until everyone adjusts.

It's also a good idea to pick up a book on your kitten, so that you can further understand the breed and what sort of things to expect as they grow. Once your kitten comes home, you will want to make an appointment with your vet, if you have one already, or chose one based on a recommendation or by locale. If you have purchased your kitten from a breeder or animal shelter, they have most likely had their first set of shots. Regular visits to the vet will ensure your pet a happy and healthy life. Your vet will also be able to address any concerns, behavior issues, or other questions that you might have.



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You'll need these basics before your Oriental comes home. Click the items below to go to CheapPetStore.com to find the best prices for online pet supplies.

- [Cage](#)
- [Scratch Post](#)
- [Cat Bed](#)
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- [Shampoo](#)
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EXPERT TIP

Selecting a Carrier

A cat should be able to stand and turn around inside a closed carrier. If you have a Abyssinian kitten, consider the average height and weight of an adult and choose a crate based on those specifications. The average size of an adult Abyssinian is 10 lbs. Choose a sturdy and safe carrier for medium sized breeds such as the Abyssinian.

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The Oriental Kitten

Each stage of your pet's life is characterized by special needs. Kittens' lives are full of learning experiences. Enjoy the time you spend with your Oriental kitten. Early socialization normally prohibits anxious behaviors from surfacing. Good habits, as well as poor ones, are established at this early age. Use consistent training methods and show your kitten your expectations in a positive way and you will not be disappointed.

The Oriental Adult

As your cat begins to age, his needs begin to change. Keep surprises to a minimum by being prepared. Your cat should be active and healthy. A listless Oriental is unlikely, so watch out for any behavioral changes.

As your cat ages, his nails, paw pads, coat, skin, eyes and ears need ongoing attention. Make grooming a happy time for your cat. Since this breed does not mat its coat, grooming is easy. Also keep claws trimmed as needed and keep teeth tartar under control.

The Oriental Senior

Older cats have different needs. Dietary changes are the most prevalent at this lifestage. As your dog ages, so does his digestive system. Make sure your senior Oriental maintains a proper diet and receives proper nutrients by starting him on daily vitamins. Keep abreast of the latest trends in dental products. There are many tartar control products on the market today. You may want to provide a more appropriate sleeping and lounging area for your pet. You can help him manage his health with the proper pet healthcare aids, knowledge, and care.

Most cats are considered geriatric at age 10 and older. Most cats live until about 15 years. Senior pets have many changes in disposition and could easily be stressed by active young children. They may show signs of irritability when being handled. Orientals are genuinely loving animals and are not known to cause harm, but grumpy seniors have a way of making sure that you are aware when they are unhappy. It is important to know that senior animals tend to do things their own way and in their own time. Care for your senior in a loving, gentle manner mixed with a little patience and understanding.

Medical Considerations

Orientals have no major health concerns to date. As with any elderly pet, your cat may have difficulty getting around as quickly, due to arthritis. Urinary infections have also been noted. Today, many of these conditions can be treated with medications provided by your veterinarian.

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Can't miss gifts for the Oriental owner:

- [Blank Cards Cat](#)
- [Kitty Hoots Spiral Note Pad](#)
- [Magnetic Note Pad Cat](#)
- [Mini Cards](#)
- [Danica Mugs](#)
- [Guide To Owning A Cat](#)



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Items to suit your senior Oriental:

- [Vitamins](#)
- [Senior Formula Food](#)
- [Heated Bed](#)
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