

Dogs and Cats

BREEDING

Breeding dogs and cats has become a major business. A purebred dog or cat has a known

sire (male parent) and dam (female parent). Registration papers are the documents that show the animal's pedigree and indicate that it is registered with the American Kennel Club or breed association.

BREEDS

Dogs often are classed as purebreds or mixed breeds. A purebred dog is a member of a recognized breed eligible for registration. A mixed breed dog is a combination of different breeds. The original dog was a medium-sized animal resembling its wolflike ancestor. All purebred domestic dogs are derived from this type canine by selective breeding over millennia. Size ranges from a toy breed, such as a Chihuahua weighing 3 pounds, to a giant breed of more than 100 pounds, such as a Russian wolfhound.

Breeds that have some behavioral, physical, or historical similarity to one another often are organized into groups. A common classification system categorizes dogs as working, sporting, terriers, nonsporting, hounds, and toys. Examples of breeds in each group are given in the box on the following page.

Some mixed breed dogs resemble purebreds and may have names such as poodle mixes or shepherd mixes. Some are called simply mixed breed dogs. Mongrel and mutt are terms generally not used for mixed breed dogs in a veterinary hospital setting.

Many cat breeds exist. The most common cat is the domestic short hair (DSH). These are not mixed breed cats. Also common are domestic long hairs, Siamese, Persian, Himalayan, Abyssinian, Burmese, Manx, and Maine coon cats. Other breeds include Scottish folds, ragdolls, Somalis, rex, Birman, sphinx, and ocicats.

Cat markings and colors are important in identification. Calicos and tortoiseshells have two X-chromosome-linked colors, black

and orange (also called red, yellow, or ginger). Calicos have discrete patches of the two colors on white, whereas tortoiseshells have the black and orange interspersed. They are all female unless genetically abnormal. Other genetic factors produce deafness in white cats with blue eyes.

Tabbies have black stripes or spots over a brown or gray undercoat. They may have white fur, too. Other common colors are black, black and white, orange, gray, gray and white, and white.

Siamese and Himalayans are described by the hair color of their points ~~on the face~~. Points are the face (mask), ears, feet or legs, and tail. The rest of the body generally is a lighter color. The cat may be a seal point, chocolate point, flame point, lilac point, or blue point, among others.

DOG BREEDS

Working breeds

German shepherd
Doberman pinscher
Great Dane
rottweiler
Old English sheepdog
St. Bernard

Sporting breeds

golden retriever
Labrador retriever
weimaraner
Irish setter
cocker spaniel

Terriers

cairn terrier
fox terrier
Scottish terrier
West Highland white terrier

Nonsporting breeds

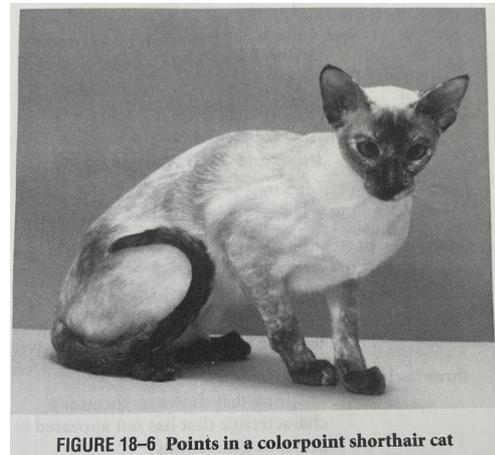
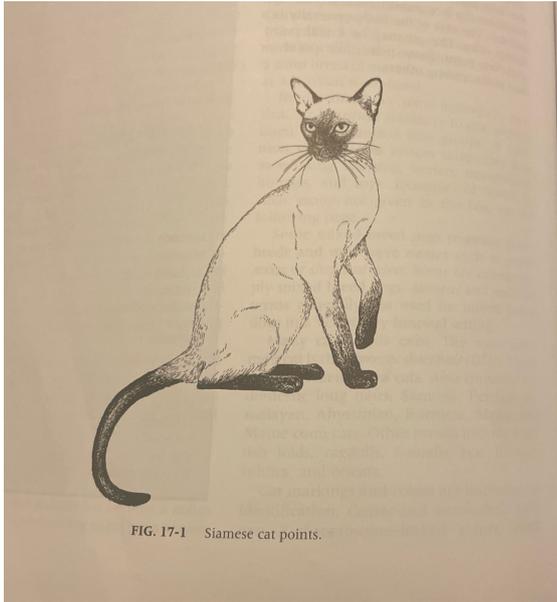
Boston terrier
bulldog
poodle
dalmatian
Lhasa apso

Hounds

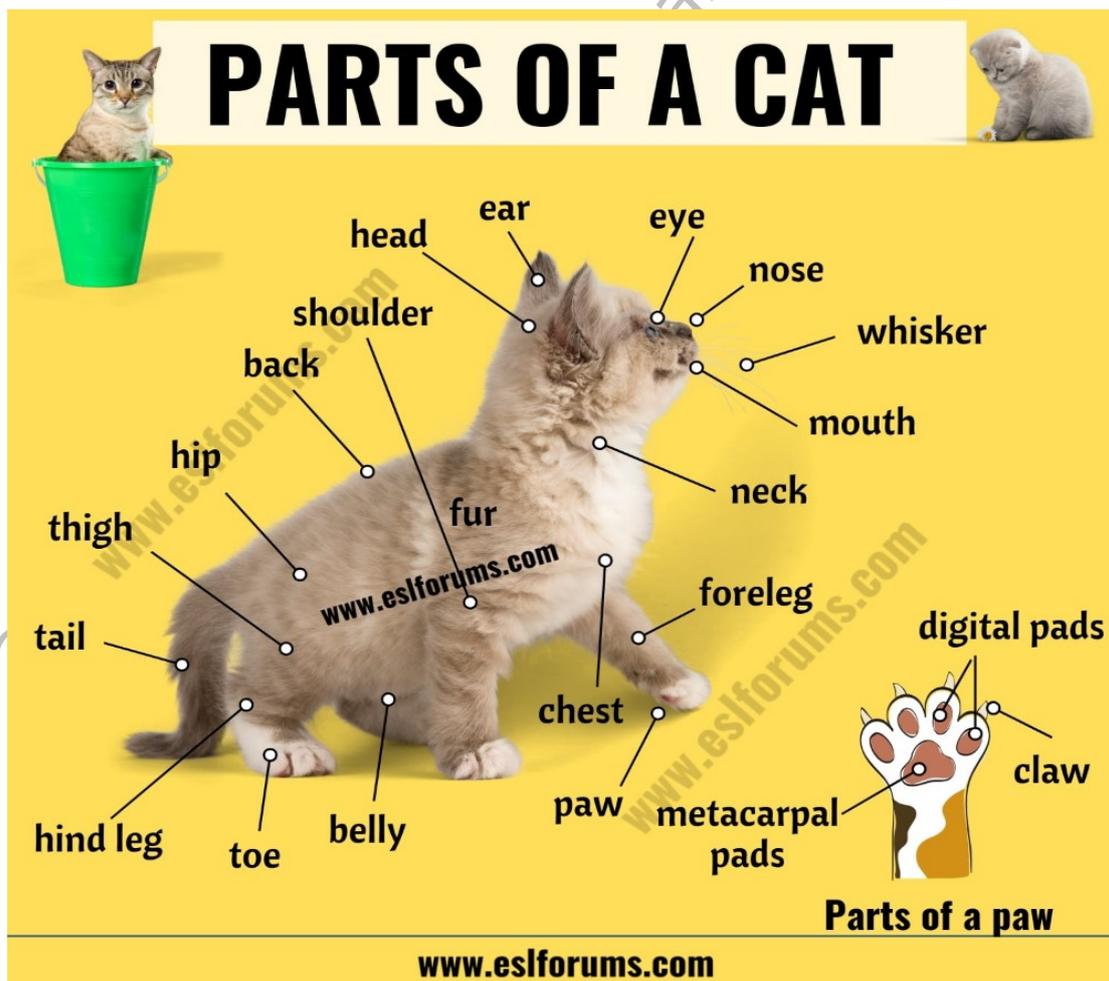
basset hound
Afghan hound
greyhound
Russian wolfhound
beagle
dachshund

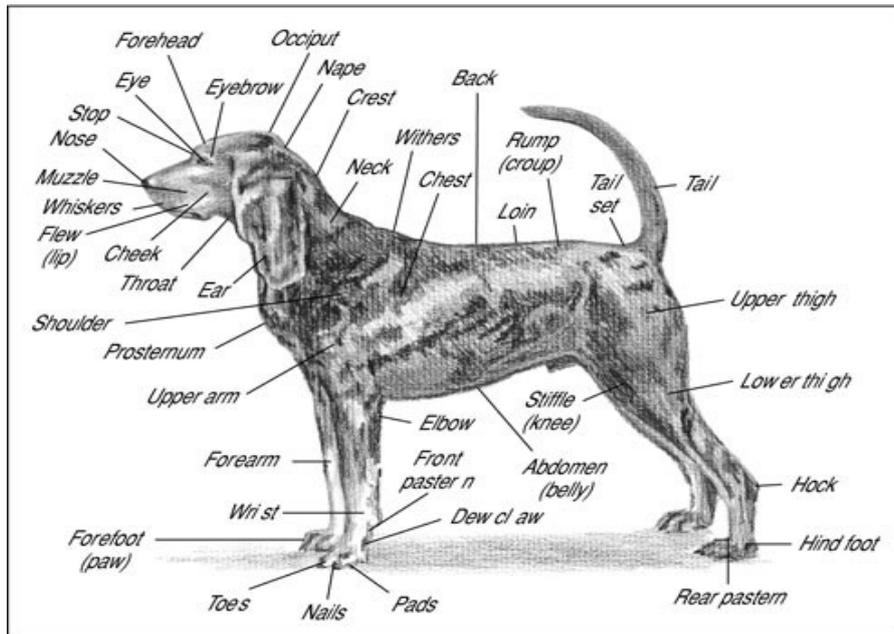
Toys

Chihuahua
Maltese
Pekingese
toy poodle
shih tzu
Yorkshire terrier



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Anatomy and physiology terms

carnassial tooth /kɑː'næsiəl tuːθ/

large shearing cheek tooth: the upper fourth premolar and lower first molar in dogs; and the upper third premolar and lower first molar in cats

constitution /,kɒnstɪ'tjuːʃn/

physical makeup of an animal

debarking /di'bɑːkɪŋ/, U-noun

surgical procedure that cuts vocal folds to soften a dog's bark; also called **devocalization**

Elizabethan collar /ɪ,lɪzə'biːθn 'kɒlə(r)/

Device placed around the neck and head of dogs and cats to prevent them from traumatizing an area; commonly called E-collar

Descriptive terms

docile /'dɒsəl/ and /'dɑːsl/, adj

tame and easygoing

dull /dʌl/, adj

lacking shine to haircoat; also used to describe behaviour more lethargic than normal

feral /'ferəl/, adj

wild, not domesticated

gait /geɪt/, usually-singular noun
the way an animal moves

gloves /glʌvz/, plural noun
white paws

retractile /rɪ'træktəɪl/, adj
ability to draw back; feline claws can be drawn back

stud /stʌd/

male animal used for breeding purposes; a place where animals, especially horses, are kept for breeding

temperament /'tempərəmənt/
emotional and mental qualities of an individual

throwback /'θrəʊbæk/, usually-singular noun
offspring that shows an ancestor's characteristic that has not appeared in previous generations

timid /'tɪmɪd/, adj
showing lack of confidence or shy

unthrifty /ʌn'θrɪftɪ/, adj
not thriving