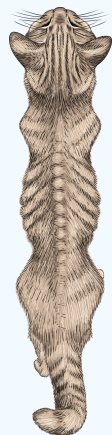
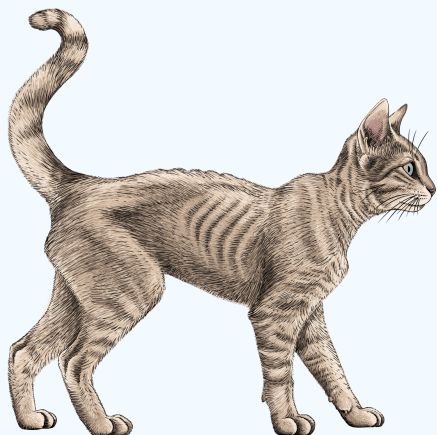


Body Condition Scoring – Feline



1 Emaciated

Extremely emaciated with very poor body condition

Ribs: Projects prominently, with sharp bony edges; no layer of fat; easily visible on short-haired cats

Back/Spine: Project prominently

Hips: Clearly visible, sharp and protruding

Abdomen: Severe abdominal tuck with a concave appearance

Waist (from above): Extremely narrow with an extreme hourglass shape

2 Very Thin

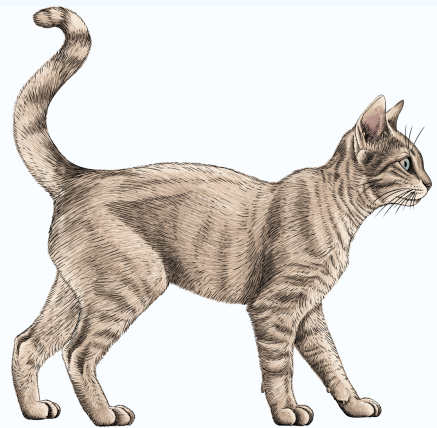
Ribs: Easily felt with a very minimal layer of fat; visible on short-haired cats

Back/Spine: Project prominently, with sharp bony edges

Hips: Visible and prominent with bony edges

Abdomen: Very pronounced abdominal tuck with a concave appearance

Waist (from above): Very narrow with an extreme hourglass shape



3 Thin

Ribs: Easily felt with a slight covering of fat; visible on short-haired cats

Back/Spine: Project prominently with sharp bony edges

Hips: Visible

Abdomen: Has a pronounced abdominal tuck and a small amount of abdominal fat

Waist (from above): Visible waistline

4 Moderately Thin

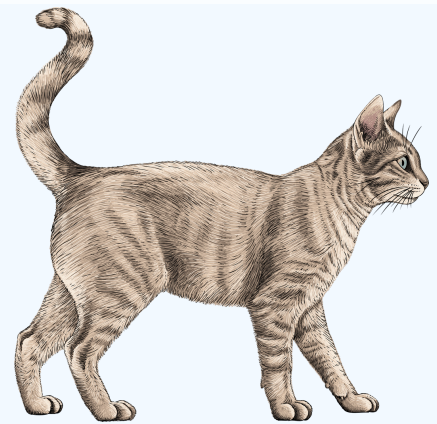
Ribs: Easily felt with a light covering of fat; not visible

Back/Spine: Spine can be felt

Hips: Less bony with a layer of fat coverage; still visible in short-haired cats

Abdomen: Slight abdominal tuck with a small fat pad

Waist (from above): Noticeable waistline, but not overly narrow



5 Ideal

Ribs: Can be felt and has a slight fat covering

Back/Spine: Smooth and easily felt but not sharp or bony

Hips: Rounded with a layer of fat

Abdomen: Slight abdominal tuck with a small fat pad

Waist (from above): Noticeable waistline behind the ribs with a gently curved hourglass shape

6 Moderately Above Ideal

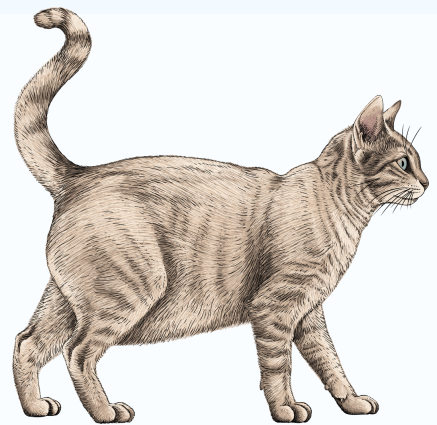
Ribs: Can still be felt but with more difficulty; not visible

Back/Spine: Can still be felt

Hips: Able to feel; no longer visible; some fat deposits present

Abdomen: Minimal abdominal tuck with a slight rounding of the abdomen

Waist (from above): Not defined



7 Overweight

Ribs: Difficult to feel under fat accumulation

Back/Spine: Becoming difficult to feel

Hips: Able to feel with some pressure; not visible; fat deposits present

Abdomen: No abdominal tuck with a rounded appearance

Waist (from above): Barely visible or absent; body appears more rounded from above

8 Obesity

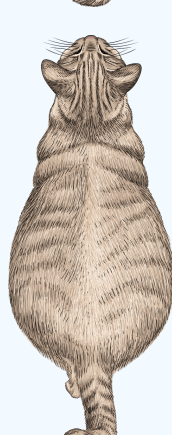
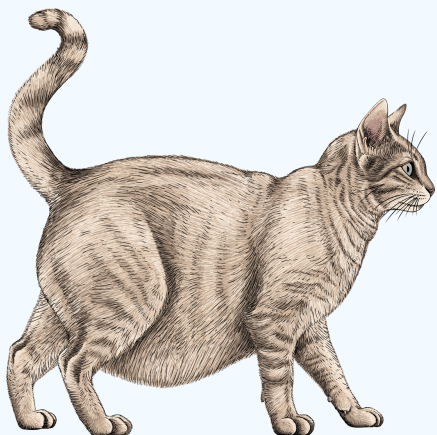
Ribs: Very difficult to feel under layer of fat

Back/Spine: Very difficult to feel

Hips: Difficult to feel under a layer of fat, little definition; not visible

Abdomen: Pronounced rounding of the abdomen and distension

Waist (from above): Not visible, broad and rounded from above
Fat deposits are noted on the body



9 Severe Obesity

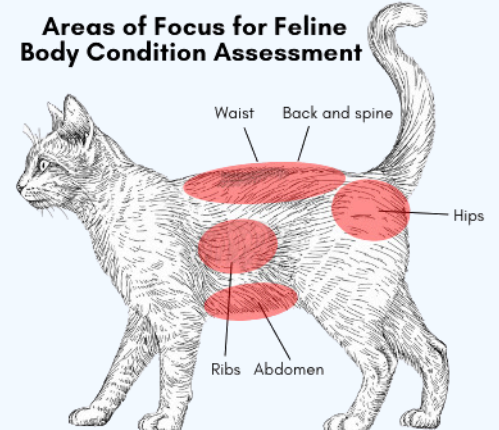
Ribs: Unable to feel

Back/Spine: Difficult to feel

Hips: Heavily padded with significant fat deposits; no definition

Abdomen: Large hanging fat pad

Waist (from above): No waist, broad and rounded from above
Excessive fat deposits are noted on the body



A body condition score (BCS) is a screening tool used by veterinary professionals to estimate body fat and help identify obesity, malnutrition, and metabolic issues. Cats with body fat percentages greater than 30% are considered to have obesity. It is important to consult a veterinarian if you suspect your pet is overweight or underweight and before beginning a weight loss program.