

BODY CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Date:

CVO/Food Safety Knowledge Centre
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Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6

Case#: Animal Name/ID#: Veterinarian:	Species, Breed, Coat Color, Coat Length, Coat Consistency (ie. Straight vs. wavy, vs. curly):
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Body Condition Assessment

Body condition is determined by both looking at the animal and feeling the animal – a 5 point will be used, where 1 is emaciated and 5 is obese. Consider natural breed/age variation

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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Emaciated | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No palpable fat. Moderate to severe loss of muscle mass • Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones all prominent from a distance • Tailbase is bony and prominent with no tissue between skin and bone • Severe abdominal tuck when viewed from the side, extreme hourglass shape when viewed from above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Underweight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal fat covering. Mild loss of muscle mass • Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones easily palpable and slightly visible with minimal fat covering • Tailbase has raised bony structure with minimal tissue between skin and bone • Prominent abdominal tuck when viewed from the side. Moderate hourglass shape when viewed from above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ideal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal fat covering and muscle mass for size/age/breed of animal • Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones moderately palpable but not visible with mild layer of fat covering • Tailbase has smooth contour or some thickening, bony structures are palpable under a thin layer of fat between skin and bone • Mild to moderate abdominal tuck when viewed from the side, mild to moderate waist behind ribs when viewed from above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Overweight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild to moderate excess fat covering. Abdominal fat apron present in cats • Muscle, ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones mildly palpable and not visible with moderate layer of fat covering • Tailbase has some thickening with moderate amount of tissue between skin and bone • Abdominal tuck slightly visible when viewed from side, waist slightly visible behind ribs from above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Obese | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marked excess fat covering. Marked abdominal fat apron present in cats • Muscle, ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones barely palpable due to marked layer of fat covering • Tailbase appears thickened and is difficult to feel under a prominent layer of fat • No abdominal tuck, waist not visible, animal is square in shape or abdomen may bulge |