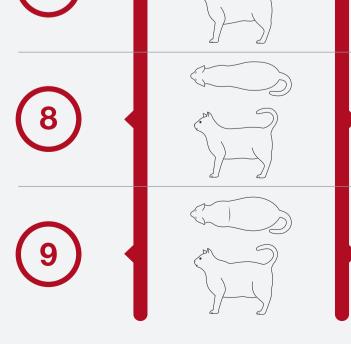
## **BODY CONDITIONING** SCORING GUIDE **FOR CATS**



UNDERWEIGHT	1	<b>Ribs clearly visible</b> *; no fat layer palpable over ribs; Very strongly drawn in belly line; very narrow waist; Spinous processes / pelvic bones easily visible / palpable.
	2	<b>Ribs visible*</b> ; no fat layer palpable; Strongly drawn in belly line; very narrow waist; Spinous processes / pelvic bones visible / palpable.
	3	<b>Ribs easily visible</b> *; minimal fat layer palpable; Drawn in belly line; narrow waist; Spinous processes / pelvic bones barely visible / palpable.
IDEAL	4	<b>Ribs not visible</b> *; light fat layer palpable; Ribs can be delineated from one another upon palpation; Slightly drawn in belly line; distinct waist; Minimal quantity of belly fat.
	5	<b>Well-proportioned cat</b> ; Ribs not visible*; light fat layer palpable; Ribs can be delineated from one another upon palpation; Small amount of belly fat; slightly drawn in waist.
	6	<b>Ribs difficult to palpate and just barely</b> <b>distinguishable from one another;</b> Belly line barely drawn in; waist barely noticeable.
IGHT	7	<b>Ribs difficult to palpate;</b> Belly line not drawn in; waist barely recognisable; Moderate amount of belly fat; waist circumference slightly enlarged.





Ribs cannot be palpated under the fat layer; Belly line not drawn in; waist not recognisable; Significant amount of belly fat; waist circumference significantly enlarged.

Ribs cannot be palpated under an excessive layer of fat; Excessive amount of belly fat; waist circumference greatly enlarged; Fat deposits in the lumbar region and on the limbs.



\* Assessment of the ribs in short-haired cats ©2022. All rights reserved. Modified acc. to WSAVA or the Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association.