

Siberian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*)

A lynx is a medium-sized cat with a short tail and long legs. On the Siberian lynx the end of the tail looks like it has been dipped in black paint. The head has a cheek beard, and the long, tapered ears have tufts. These tufts act as antenna helping them to hear and locate sound sources. They have large paws that have fur padding on the edges and between the balls of the soles. This adaptation increases the surface area of the paw preventing them from sinking in the snow and protecting them from cold. They are found in forested regions in northern Eurasia. They can live over 21 years in captivity.



Achilles

Achilles was confiscated in the southern Central Valley. He was purchased in Texas from a breeder who caters to exotic cat owners throughout those states where exotic cats are legal. Once smuggled into California, he was housed in a neighborhood in a fenced backyard. He has been neutered and declawed, though he can still pack a wallop with his paws. He is housed with two other exotic cats. Each goes into its private bedroom at feeding time—Achilles is clearly the head cat in the hierarchy.

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