Article Link: https://cats.fandom.com/wiki/Caracat/

# Caracat

The Caracat is an experimental cat breed which is partially wild and exotic, illegal in multiple states, that was bred in Russia.

## Information[]

[1]The Caracat is a cat breed, or cat species, that is a mix between a Caracal and an average domestic cat. They can also be mixed with an Iberian Lynx, and look similar to a Chausie.

“Sandy” fur, tufted ears, impressive size - from afar, it seems to be a caracal - a beautiful and wild steppe lynx. But this, in fact, is one of the rarest domestic cats in the world - the caracat - and it appeared in Russia.

The history of the caracat began in the Moscow Zoo in 1998, when a domestic cat entered the male caracal’s enclosure and they mated. The cat gave birth to a kitten with tufted ears. This story was first described in an article by I. Kusminych and A. Pawlowa in the German magazine ‘Der Zoologische Garten’ under the title: ‘Ein Bastard von Karakal Hauskatze im Moskauer Zoo’ (Vol. 68, No. 4, 1998). One of the zoo employees also recalled this a few years ago, but we don’t know the further fate of that kitten, except that it left no offspring.

In the early 2000s, American felinologists Joy Geisinger and Allison Navarro tried to breed caracats by crossing a caracal with an Abyssinian cat and the caracats were officially recognized by The International Cat Association (TICA). Some years later, breeders abandoned their attempts. In the 2010s, Ukrainian felinologist Anna Kuzmina made progress in ‘F1’ (the first generation of caracats) kittens. But, the greatest success in breeding further feline generations was achieved by Russian felinologists.

Today, the main caracat breeder is Irina Nazarova from Krasnodar at her Kataleya nursery. The Krasnodar nursery’s cats gave birth to 150 F1 caracats, 50 F2 caracats, 10 F3 caracats and several F4 and F5 kittens. The less “wild” the blood, the shorter the tufts on ears and the smaller the cat. Kataleya has several subsidiary nurseries across Russia, where they breed these rare cats. There is also a nursery near Barnaul (Altai Territory), where the biologist and geneticist Inna Dombrovskaya studies the caracats (from F1 to F3).

Inna Dombrovskaya bought her first caracat for the Kataleya nursery back in 2016. As she told local media, she had to sell her car, because the kitten cost one million rubles - about $14,000. Now, the prices for the F3 caracat start from 100,000 rubles ($1,500), for the F2 kitten - 350,000 rubles (about $ 5,000) and for a F1 - from 1.2 million rubles (over $15,000). The caracat is a very complex breed and only females are fertile. The main task for modern felinologists is to breed males who will be able to create offspring. The Caracat is also a big gourmet. It can eat only fresh meat and quails are best suited. Also, caracats eat rabbit and chicken. An adult cat eats almost a kilogram of meat a day and this is not a joke. But it won’t even touch cat food. It can’t eat fish, dairy or especially pork. Breeders also recommend only filtered water.

Caracats, like all animals, shed from time to time, so they need to be combed out. They also really like to bathe - it’s not recommended to wash kittens more often than once every three months, but adult cats can calmly get into the bath after a daily walk.

## Gallery[]

## References[]