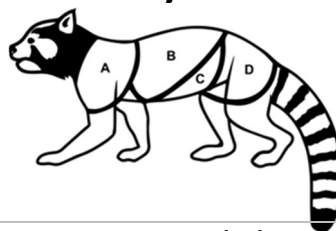


Red Panda Body Condition Score Chart



Score	Underconditioned			Ideal		Overconditioned			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	
Forequarters "A"	Structures palpable with minimal to no pressure. Point of scapula visible while walking and may be visible while standing. Point of shoulder is prominent and sharp.			Structures palpable with light to mild pressure. Point of scapula slightly visible while walking.		Structures palpable with moderate pressure. Point of scapula covered, starting to disappear while walking.			Structures palpable with moderate to heavy pressure. Point of scapula covered, not visible.
Ribs and Back "B"	Individual ribs are prominent and palpable without pressure. Intercostal spaces feel sunken. Spinous process is apparent and easily palpable. Back sharply slopes with spine extremely prominent.			Ribs palpable with minimal pressure. Spine palpable with light to mild pressure. Vertebrae palpable but covered with minimal fat layer.		Ribs palpable with mild pressure. Vertebrae palpable with mild to moderate pressure. Back starting to flatten.		Ribs palpable with moderate pressure. Vertebrae palpable with moderate to heavy pressure. Back flat. Heavy pressure needed to feel ribs and vertebrae. Back flat.	
Abdomen "C"	No cover over abdominal muscles. Abdominal tuck may be observed. Clear distinction of rib cage from abdomen, no fat deposits behind last rib. Waist appears sunken.		Abdominal muscles have minimal fat cover. Able to distinguish waist by touch. Minimal fat cover behind last rib.		Abdominal muscles lightly covered. Able to distinguish slight waist by touch. Fat is present behind last rib.		Abdominal muscles covered. Abdominal fat pad may be starting to fill. Excess fat accumulating behind last rib.		Abdominal muscles heavily covered. Abdominal fat pad filled. Significant fat deposits behind last rib. Waist not apparent. Abdomen protruding and has a pendulous "belly" appearance.
Hindquarters "D"	Hip bones easily felt with no pressure. Tail base feels sunken. Outlines of body structures may be visible depending on coat condition. Visible definition between torso and hindquarters.		Minimal pressure needed to feel structures. No fat cover around tail base.		Light to mild pressure needed to feel structures. Minimal fat cover around tail base.		Mild to moderate pressure needed to feel structures. Excess fat starting to accumulate around tail base. Fat accumulating around hip joint and inguinal area.		Moderate to heavy pressure needed to feel structures. Fat around tail base palpable. Fat deposits around hip joint and inguinal area. Definition between hindquarters and torso smooth and less apparent. Heavy pressure needed to feel structures. Fat accumulation around tail base palpable. Significant fat deposits around hip joint and inguinal area. No definition between hindquarters and torso.

Adapted from Red Panda Anatomy (Fisher, 2011); Considerations for Kinkajou Captive Diets (Wright and Edwards, 2009); and Domestic Dog Body Condition Score System (Nestle Purina). Illustration courtesy of Dr. Sally Bornbusch, personal communication, 2023.

Proprietary information – do not quote or cite.