

TREE KANGAROO BODY CONDITION SCORE CHART



The following guidelines for assessing body condition were developed by the TK-SSP for the purpose of assisting in monitoring an individual's body condition. Body condition score (BCS) can be obtained using a combination of visual exam and physical assessment. It is recommended to use BCS in conjunction with weight to determine the need for diet modification. An ideal BCS range of 4-6 may improve reproductive success and longer quality of life. *ZIMS numerical scale of *1-9 for body score was used as a reference point.

**Illustrations by Bridget Smith*

	1 EMACIATED	2/3 VERY UNDER-CONDITIONED	4 SLIGHTLY UNDER-CONDITIONED	5 IDEAL CONDITION	6 SLIGHTLY OVER-CONDITIONED	7/8 VERY OVER-CONDITIONED	9 OBESE
OVERALL BODY APPEARANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no noticeable fat covering no visible muscle mass all skeleton visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no palpable body fat minimal visible muscle mass articulations angular and some bones/spinous processes are discernible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no obvious accumulations of body fat no obvious lack of muscle mass no obvious bony protrusions slight ridge along back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimal accumulations of body fat no obvious lack of muscle mass no obvious bony protrusions back is flat (no crease or ridge) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> moderate accumulations of body fat lack of visible muscular definition slight crease down back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area, base of tail, and/or waist minimal abdominal distension crease down back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> heavy fat deposits over thorax, spine, base of tail, neck and limbs obvious abdominal distension obvious crease down back fat present below/around pouch and testicles
FOREQUARTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bones of shoulders and back visible and sharp scapula clearly visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bones of shoulders and back prominent but with slight covering scapular spine visible with peak of scapula prominent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shoulders and neck accentuated neck cylindrical but discernible from shoulder slight scapular spine visible with peak of scapula apparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body peak of scapula noticeable but topline flows smoothly from neck into torso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat beginning to be deposited behind shoulders and along side of neck neck filled and becoming continuous with shoulder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> muscles of shoulder barely noticeable, covered in fat fat accumulating under neck and chest and behind shoulder and arm noticeable thickening of neck 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bulging fat behind shoulders and along neck pendulous fat accumulated beneath neck, chest and arms neck continuous with head and shoulder
MIDSECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all ribs visible with deep depressions individual vertebrae visible severe abdominal tuck behind last rib 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> multiple ribs visible spinous processes discernible significant abdominal tuck immediately behind last rib 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> faint outline of ribs discernible spinous processes barely visible slight abdominal tuck behind last rib smooth but noticeable delineation between shoulder, torso and hip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt spinous processes not visible back smooth slight delineation between shoulder, torso and hip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat over ribs spongy; ribs not visible back smooth and rounded with slight crease delineation between shoulder and torso but torso flows smoothly into hip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> difficult to feel ribs back rounded with crease shoulder barely differentiated from torso, but torso continues with hip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> patchy fat on ribs back rounded with obvious crease abdominal fat deposits noticeable torso rounded and smooth, continuous with shoulder and hip
HINDQUARTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hip bones sharply projected sacral vertebrae sharply projected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hip bones prominent sacral vertebrae prominent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> point of hip visible but covered sacral vertebrae barely visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> point of hip well-rounded, slope of hip becoming rounder sacrum sloped but beginning to fill and round 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> point of hip covered and rounded sacrum completely filled and rounded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat deposits along inner thighs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat along inner thighs flank filled with fat
TAIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tail head sharply projected all tail bones very visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tail head prominent some tail bones visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tail head prominence depends on conformation tail has thin appearance but no bones visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat around tail head beginning to feel spongy base thick with regular decrease in size toward tail tip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat around tail head soft base flush with body tail begins to thicken toward tip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fat around tail head very soft tail more uniform in thickness toward tip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bulging fat around tail head tail noticeably thickened with patchy fat deposits