



TRAITS: BASE COAT COLOR

TRAIT RESULT

Dark or Light Fur | E (Extension) Locus | Gene: Melanocortin Receptor 1 (MC1R) | Genetic Result: ee

This gene helps determine whether a dog can produce dark (black or brown) hairs or lighter yellow or red hairs. Any result except for **ee** means that the dog can produce dark hairs. An **ee** result means that the dog does not produce dark hairs at all, and will have lighter yellow or red hairs over their entire body.

Light colored fur (cream to red)

Did You Know? If a dog has a **ee** result then the fur's actual shade can range from a deep copper to yellow/gold to cream - the exact color cannot be predicted solely from this result, and will depend on other genetic factors.

Dark brown pigment | Cocoa | Gene: HPS3 | Genetic Result: NN

Dogs with the **coco** genotype will produce dark brown pigment instead of black in both their hair and skin. Dogs with the **Nco** genotype will produce black pigment, but can pass the **co** variant on to their puppies. Dogs that have the **coco** genotype as well as the **bb** genotype at the B locus are generally a lighter brown than dogs that have the **Bb** or **BB** genotypes at the B locus.

No impact on skin color

Did You Know? The **co** variant and the dark brown "cocoa" coat color have only been documented in French Bulldogs. Dogs with the cocoa coat color are sometimes born with light brown coats that darken as they reach maturity.

Red Pigment Intensity LINKAGE | I (Intensity) Loci | Genetic Result: Intense Red Pigmentation

Intensity refers to the concentration of red pigment in the coat. Dogs with more densely concentrated (intense) pigment will be a deeper red, while dogs with less concentrated (dilute) pigment will be tan, yellow, cream, or white. Five locations in the dog genome explain approximately 70% of red pigmentation intensity variation across all dogs. Because the locations we test may not directly cause differences in red pigmentation intensity, we consider this to be a linkage test.

Any pigmented fur likely apricot or red

Did You Know? One of the genes that influences pigment intensity in dogs, TYR, is also responsible for intensity variation in domestic mice, cats, cattle, rabbits, and Ilamas. In dogs and humans, more genes are involved.







TRAITS: BASE COAT COLOR (CONTINUED)

TRAIT RESULT

Brown or Black Pigment | B (Brown) Locus | Gene: Tyrosinase Related Protein 1 (TYRP1) | Genetic Result: Bb

This gene helps determine whether a dog produces brown or black pigments. Dogs with a **bb** result produce brown pigment instead of black in both their hair and skin, while dogs with a **Bb** or **BB** result produce black pigment. Dogs that have **ee** at the E (Extension) Locus and **bb** at this B (Brown) Locus are likely to have red or cream coats and brown noses, eye rims, and footpads, which is sometimes referred to as "Dudley Nose" in Labrador Retrievers.

Likely black colored nose/feet

Did You Know? "Liver" or "chocolate" is the preferred color term for brown in most breeds; in the Doberman Pinscher it is referred to as "red".

Color Dilution | D (Dilute) Locus | Gene: Melanophilin (MLPH) | Genetic Result: DD

This gene helps determine whether a dog has lighter "diluted" pigment. A dog with a **Dd** or **DD** result will not be dilute. A dog with a **dd** result will have all their black or brown pigment lightened ("diluted") to gray or light brown, and may lighten red pigment to cream. This affects their fur, skin, and sometimes eye color. The D locus result that we report is determined by two different genetic variants that can work together to cause diluted pigmentation. These are the common **d** allele, also known as "**d1**", and a less common allele known as "**d2**". Dogs with one **d1** allele and one **d2** allele are typically dilute. To view your dog's **d1** and **d2** test results, click the "SEE DETAILS" link in the upper right hand corner of the "Base Coat Color" section of the Traits page, and then click the "VIEW SUBLOCUS RESULTS" link at the bottom of the page.

Dark (non-dilute) skin

Did You Know? There are many breed-specific names for these dilute colors, such as "blue", "charcoal", "fawn", "silver", and "Isabella". Dilute dogs, especially in certain breeds, have a higher incidence of Color Dilution Alopecia which causes hair loss in some patches.





TRAITS: COAT COLOR MODIFIERS

TRAIT RESULT

Hidden Patterning \mid *K* (Dominant Black) Locus \mid Gene: Canine Beta-Defensin 103 (CBD103) \mid Genetic Result: $\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{y}}$

This gene helps determine whether the dog has a black coat. Dogs with a $\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{y}}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{y}}$ result will show a coat color pattern based on the result they have at the A (Agouti) Locus. A $\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{B}}$ or $\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{y}}$ result means the dog is dominant black, which overrides the fur pattern that would otherwise be determined by the A (Agouti) Locus. These dogs will usually have solid black or brown coats, or if they have $\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}$ at the E (Extension) Locus then red/cream coats, regardless of their result at the A (Agouti) Locus. Dogs who test as $\mathbf{K}^{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{y}}$ may be brindle rather than black or brown.

No impact on coat color

Did You Know? Even if a dog is "dominant black" several other genes could still impact the dog's fur and cause other patterns, such as white spotting.

Body Pattern | A (Agouti) Locus | Gene: Agouti Signalling Protein (ASIP) | Genetic Result: a ya

This gene is responsible for causing different coat patterns. It only affects the fur of dogs that do not have **ee** at the E (Extension) Locus and do have **k**^y**k**^y at the K (Dominant Black) Locus. It controls switching between black and red pigment in hair cells, which means that it can cause a dog to have hairs that have sections of black and sections of red/cream, or hairs with different colors on different parts of the dog's body. Sable or Fawn dogs have a mostly or entirely red coat with some interspersed black hairs. Agouti or Wolf Sable dogs have red hairs with black tips, mostly on their head and back. Black and tan dogs are mostly black or brown with lighter patches on their cheeks, eyebrows, chest, and legs. Recessive black dogs have solid-colored black or brown coats.

No impact on coat pattern

Did You Know? The ASIP gene causes interesting coat patterns in many other species of animals as well as dogs.

Facial Fur Pattern | E (Extension) Locus | Gene: Melanocortin Receptor 1 (MC1R) | Genetic Result: ee

In addition to determining if a dog can develop dark fur at all, this gene can give a dog a black "mask" or "widow's peak," unless the dog has overriding coat color genetic factors. Dogs with one or two copies of $\mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{m}}$ in their result will have a mask, which is dark facial fur as seen in the German Shepherd and Pug. Dogs with no $\mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{m}}$ in their result but one or two copies of $\mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{g}}$ will instead have a "widow's peak", which is dark forehead fur.

No dark fur anywhere

Did You Know? The widow's peak is seen in the Afghan Hound and Borzoi, where it is called either "grizzle" or "domino".







TRAITS: COAT COLOR MODIFIERS (CONTINUED)

TRAIT RESULT

Saddle Tan | Gene: RALY | Genetic Result: NN

The "Saddle Tan" pattern causes the black hairs to recede into a "saddle" shape on the back, leaving a tan face, legs, and belly, as a dog ages. The Saddle Tan pattern is characteristic of breeds like the Corgi, Beagle, and German Shepherd. Dogs that have the II genotype at this locus are more likely to be mostly black with tan points on the eyebrows, muzzle, and legs as commonly seen in the Doberman Pinscher and the Rottweiler. This gene modifies the A Locus at allele, so dogs that do not express at are not influenced by this gene.

No impact on coat pattern

Did You Know? The Saddle Tan pattern is characteristic of breeds like the Corgi, Beagle, and German Shepherd.

White Spotting | S (White Spotting) Locus | Gene: MITF | Genetic Result: Ssp

This gene is responsible for most of the white spotting observed in dogs. Dogs with a result of **spsp** will have a nearly white coat or large patches of white in their coat. Dogs with a result of **Ssp** will have more limited white spotting that is breed-dependent. A result of **SS** means that a dog likely has no white or minimal white in their coat. The S Locus does not explain all white spotting patterns in dogs and other causes are currently being researched. Some dogs may have small amounts of white on the paws, chest, face, or tail regardless of their result at this gene.

Likely to have some white areas in coat

Did You Know? Any dog can have white spotting regardless of coat color. The colored sections of the coat will reflect the dog's other genetic coat color results.

Roan LINKAGE | R (Roan) Locus | Gene: USH2A | Genetic Result: rr

This gene, along with the S Locus, regulates whether a dog will have roaning. Dogs with at least one copy of **R** will likely have roaning on otherwise uniformly unpigmented white areas created by the S Locus. Roan may not be visible if white spotting is limited to small areas, such as the paws, chest, face, or tail. The extent of roaning varies from uniform roaning to non-uniform roaning, and patchy, non-uniform roaning may look similar to ticking. Roan does not appear in white areas created by other genes, such as a combination of the E Locus and I Locus (for example, Samoyeds). The roan pattern can appear with or without ticking.

Likely no impact on coat pattern

Did You Know? Roan, tick, and Dalmatians' spots become visible a few weeks after birth. The R Locus is probably involved in the development of Dalmatians' spots.







TRAITS: COAT COLOR MODIFIERS (CONTINUED)

TRAIT RESULT

Merle | M (Merle) Locus | Gene: PMEL | Genetic Result: mm

This gene is responsible for mottled or patchy coat color in some dogs. Dogs with an **M*m** result are likely to appear merle or could be "non-expressing" merle, meaning that the merle pattern is very subtle or not at all evident in their coat. Dogs with an **M*M*** result are likely to have merle or double merle coat patterning. Dogs with an **mm** result are unlikely to have a merle coat pattern.

No impact on coat color

Did You Know? Merle coat patterning is common to several dog breeds including the Australian Shepherd, Catahoula Leopard Dog, and Shetland Sheepdog.

Harlequin | Gene: PSMB | Genetic Result: hh

This gene, along with the M Locus, determines whether a dog will have harlequin patterning. This pattern is recognized in Great Danes and causes dogs to have a white coat with patches of darker pigment. A dog with an **Hh** result will be harlequin if they are also **M*m** or **M*M*** at the M Locus and are not **ee** at the E locus. Dogs with a result of **hh** will not be harlequin.

No impact on coat pattern

Did You Know? While many harlequin dogs are white with black patches, some dogs have grey, sable, or brindle patches of color, depending on their genotypes at other coat color genes.





TRAITS: OTHER COAT TRAITS

TRAIT	RESULT
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Furnishings LINKAGE | Gene: RSP02 | Genetic Result: FF

This gene is responsible for "furnishings", which is another name for the mustache, beard, and eyebrows that are characteristic of breeds like the Schnauzer, Scottish Terrier, and Wire Haired Dachshund. A dog with an **FF** or **FI** result is likely to have furnishings. A dog with an **II** result will not have furnishings. We measure this result using a linkage test.

Likely furnished (mustache, beard, and/or eyebrows)

Did You Know? In breeds that are expected to have furnishings, dogs without furnishings are the exception - this is sometimes called an "improper coat".

Coat Length | Gene: FGF5 | Genetic Result: TT

This gene is known to affect hair/fur length in many different species, including cats, dogs, mice, and humans. In dogs, a **TT** result means the dog is likely to have a long, silky coat as seen in the Yorkshire Terrier and the Long Haired Whippet. A **GG** or **GT** result is likely to mean a shorter coat, like in the Boxer or the American Staffordshire Terrier.

Likely long coat

Did You Know? In certain breeds, such as Corgi, the long coat is described as "fluff."

Shedding | Gene: MC5R | Genetic Result: CT

This gene affects how much a dog sheds. Dogs with furnishings or wire-haired coats tend to be low shedders regardless of their result for this gene. In other dogs, a **CC** or **CT** result indicates heavy or seasonal shedding, like many Labradors and German Shepherd Dogs. Dogs with a **TT** result tend to be lighter shedders, like Boxers, Shih Tzus and Chihuahuas.

Likely light shedding

Coat Texture | Gene: KRT71 | Genetic Result: TT

For dogs with long fur, dogs with a **TT** or **CT** result will likely have a wavy or curly coat like the coat of Poodles and Bichon Frises. Dogs with a **CC** result will likely have a straight coat—unless the dog has a "Likely Furnished" result for the Furnishings trait, since this can also make the coat more curly.

Likely curly coat

Did You Know? Dogs with short coats may have straight coats, whatever result they have for this gene.







TRAITS: OTHER COAT TRAITS (CONTINUED)

TRAIT RESULT

Hairlessness (Terrier type) | Gene: SGK3 | Genetic Result: NN

This gene is responsible for Hairlessness in the American Hairless Terrier. Dogs with the **DD** result are likely to be hairless. Dogs with the **ND** genotype will have a normal coat, but can pass the **D** variant on to their offspring.

Very unlikely to be hairless

Oculocutaneous Albinism Type 2 LINKAGE | Gene: SLC45A2 | Genetic Result: NN

This gene causes oculocutaneous albinism (OCA), also known as Doberman Z Factor Albinism. Dogs with a **DD** result will have OCA. Effects include severely reduced or absent pigment in the eyes, skin, and hair, and sometimes vision problems due to lack of eye pigment (which helps direct and absorb ambient light) and are prone to sunburn. Dogs with a **ND** result will not be affected, but can pass the mutation on to their offspring. We measure this result using a linkage test.

Likely not albino

Did You Know? This particular mutation can be traced back to a single white Doberman Pinscher born in 1976, and it has only been observed in dogs descended from this individual.

