

NATIONAL CHINESE OWL CLUB

COLOR DESCRIPTIONS TO ACCOMPANY THE STANDARD OF PERFECTION

(Revised - 2023)

General Bar Pattern Notes: All bar pattern birds should have two well-defined, uniform in edging and color, bars on each wing shield and a single bar on the tail. (Exceptions to this noted in each color class where it does not apply).

General Check Pattern Notes: All check pattern birds, (open, medium, or t-check pattern) should have an even disbursement and uniformity in checking in each wing shield along with the bars and a single bar on the tail. The bars in the wing shield will not be uniform due to the checking. (Exceptions to this noted in each color class where it does not apply).

General Self or Solid Color Notes: All self or solid color birds should be uniform and intense in color throughout the bird without pattern bleed-through. (Exceptions to this noted in each color class where it does not apply).

- 1. Mealy Bar – (Ash Red Bar):** Wing shield, breast, body, tail, and flights a light ash color with pink/red hues. Head and neck slightly darker ash red. The bars on the wing shield are a brick red with no bar on the tail. When blue bred, the base color will be more of a lavender-gray with black flecking in cocks. When brown bred, the base color will be more reddish-beige with brown flecking. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B^A//C⁺]
- 2. Red Check – (Ash Red Check):** Same as bar with the checkering in the wing shield also brick red with no tail bar. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B^A//C]
- 3. Lavender – (Spread Ash Red):** The entire bird a light ash color with pink/red hues. When blue bred, the base color will be more of a lavender-gray with black flecking in cocks. When brown bred, the base color will be more reddish-beige with brown flecking. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B^A//S]
- 4. Cream Bar – (Ash Yellow Bar):** Wing shield, breast, body, tail, and flights a light ash cream in color. Head and neck slightly darker ash cream. The bars on the wing shield are a sun yellow with no bar on the tail. When blue bred, the base color will be more of a silver-cream with dun flecking in cocks. When brown bred, the base color will be a lighter tan-cream with khaki flecking. Iridescence: light purple and green. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B^A,d//C⁺]
- 5. Yellow Check – (Ash Yellow Check):** Same as bar with the checkering in the wing shield also sun yellow with no tail bar. Iridescence: light purple and green. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B^A,d//C]
- 6. Cream – (Spread Ash Yellow):** The entire bird a light ash cream in color. When blue bred, the base color will be more of a silver-cream with dun flecking in cocks. When brown bred, the base color will be a lighter tan-cream with khaki flecking. Iridescence: light purple and green. Beak and Toenails: light horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B^A,d//S]
- 7. Blue Bar:** Wing shield, breast, and body an even shade of light blue-gray. Head, neck, rump, tail, and flights a darker shade of blue-gray. The bars on the wing shield and tail are black in color. Iridescence: green and purple. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B⁺//C⁺]
- 8. Blue Check:** Same as bar with the checking in the wing also black in color. Iridescence: green and purple. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B⁺//C]
- 9. Black – (Spread Blue):** The entire bird a uniform dark black color. Iridescence: green and purple. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [B⁺//S]
- 10. Silver Bar:** Wing shield, breast, and body an even shade of light silver-gray. Head, neck, rump, tail, and flights a darker shade of silver-gray. The bars on the wing shield and tail are dark dun in color. Iridescence: light green and purple. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B⁺,d//C⁺]

11. **Silver Check:** Same as bar with the checking in the wing also dark dun in color. Iridescence: light green and purple. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B⁺,d//C]
12. **Dun – (Spread Silver):** The entire bird a uniform dark dun (dark charcoal gray) color. Iridescence: light green and purple. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-yellow. [B⁺,d//S]
13. **Brown Bar:** Wing shield, breast, and body a light taupe color. Head, neck, rump, tail, and flights a darker shade of taupe. The bars on the wing shield and tail are chocolate brown in color. Iridescence: green and pink. Beak and toenails: horn. Eye color: orange to false pearl/gravel. [b//C⁺]
14. **Brown Check:** Same as bar with the checking in the wing also chocolate brown in color. Iridescence: green and pink. Beak and toenails: horn. Eye color: orange to false pearl/gravel. [b//C]
15. **Brown – (Spread Brown):** The entire bird a uniform chocolate brown color. Iridescence: green and pink. Beak and toenails: horn. Eye color: orange to false pearl/gravel. [b//S]
16. **Khaki Bar:** Wing shield, breast, and body a beige color. Head, neck, rump, tail, and flights a slightly darker shade of beige. The bars on the wing shield and tail are khaki in color. Iridescence: light green and pink. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: false pearl/gravel. [b,d//C⁺]
17. **Khaki Check:** Same as bar with the checking in the wing also khaki in color. Iridescence: light green and pink. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: false pearl/gravel. [b,d//C]
18. **Khaki – (Spread Khaki):** The entire bird a uniform khaki color. Iridescence: light green and pink. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: false pearl/gravel. [b,d//S]
19. **Indigo Bar:** Wing shield, breast, and body a light plum blue-gray color. Head, neck, rump, tail, and flights a darker shade of plum blue-gray. The tail feathers are slightly variegated, lighter in the center and darker to the outer edges, with no defined bar in the tail. The bars on the wing shield are rust-red bronze in color with black under tones. The indigo bronze can also be on ash red bar and brown bar and in homozygous form as well. All forms of indigo bar, except grizzle, go in this color class. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [In//C⁺]
20. **Indigo Check:** Same as bar with the checking in the wing also rust-red bronze in color with black under tones. All forms of indigo check, except grizzle, go in this class as well. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [In//C]
21. **Andalusian – (Spread Indigo):** The entire bird is a darker plum blue-gray variegated feather giving it a laced appearance throughout, gradually darkening to the head. Some of the rust-red bronze color may also be present. All forms of spread indigo, except grizzle, go in this color class. Iridescence: purple and green. Beak and toenails: black. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [In//S]
22. **Grizzle Bar – (All Colors):** Wing shield, breast, body, head, and neck marbled with white and color on each feather, with the same shade differentials as called for in the color descriptions. The flights and tail are less affected by the white marbling and should have no solid white feathers. The bars on the wing shield should be apparent but not as uniform due to the marbling of white. The ratio of white and color should be even but can vary. Iridescence: appropriate to color. Beak and toenails: appropriate to color. Eye color: appropriate to color. [G//C⁺]
23. **Grizzle/Tort Check – (All Colors):** Same as bar with the checking in the wing shield also affected by the white marbling. The presence of bronze mixed with the pattern is tortoiseshell. Iridescence: appropriate to color. Beak and toenails: appropriate to color. Eye color: appropriate to color. [G//C or G,Ma//C]
24. **A.O. Grizzle – (Any Other Grizzle) (All Colors):** Grizzle birds not fitting into the bar or check classes. This includes mottles, which are self or solid birds in which the grizzle forms blotches of white and color rather than an even marbling. Stork marked or homozygous grizzles, which appear near white birds with dark flights and tails. All white birds with colored eyes. Iridescence: appropriate to color. Beak and toenails: appropriate to color. Eye color: appropriate to color. [G//S or G,G//]

25. **Almond:** The base color is a rich rust-yellow almond color, with random black flecking throughout. The entire bird having a combination of almond, bronze, black and white colors. This coloring will darken with each molt the bird goes through. Ash red or Brown versions would show in this class also. Iridescence: green and purple. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [St//C^T]
26. **Qualmond – (Quinn-Almond):** The qualmond color appears as an almond without the yellow almond base coloring. The base is a soft, light blue-gray with black flecking and lightened bronzing in the wing shield. The bronzing is lightened to a rose-peach appearance in the pattern area on the wing shield. All qualmonds, in all colors, bar pattern, check pattern, spread versions, except grizzle, go in this color class. Iridescence: green and purple. Beak and toenails: dark horn. Eye color: orange to orange-red. [St^Q//C^T]
27. **Recessive Red:** The entire bird being a deep, rich chestnut red color without pattern bleed-through. The tone of red (bright red, chestnut red, or orange red) is dependent on which base color it is on (ash red, blue, or brown). It is important that the color be even throughout the bird and not show any plum or washed-out color. Iridescence: purple. Beak and toenails: light horn. Eye color: Orange. [e//e]
28. **Recessive Yellow:** The entire bird being a deep, rich golden yellow color without pattern bleed-through. The tone of yellow can also vary as in recessive red. It is important that the color be even throughout the bird and not show any plum or washed-out color. Iridescence: gold. Beak and toenails: flesh. Eye color: orange-yellow. [e,d//e,d]
29. **Milky – (Powdered):** The effect of milky or powdered is that the entire bird is lightened as if dipped in milk or white powder. Outside of the lightening effect, the rest of each color class still applies. All color classes with milky go into this class, except grizzle. Iridescence: relevant to color but lightened in intensity. Beak and toenails: relevant to color but lightened in intensity. Eye color: relevant to color. [my//]
30. **White:** A clear white throughout the bird, completely void of color. Beak and toenails: flesh. Eye color: bull. [z^{wh}//z^{wh} or Wh//]
31. **Saddle – (All Colors + Grizzle):** A white bird with colored wing shield and back. The 10 primary flights to be white. Applies to all colors. Beak and toenails: flesh. Eye color: bull. [//shd,s1]
32. **Body/Tail Mark – (All Colors + Grizzle):** Body marks are a colored bird with a white tail only. Applies to all colors. Iridescence: relevant to color. Beak and toenails: relevant to color. Eye color: relevant to color. Tail marks are a solid white bird with colored tail and rump. Applies to all colors. Beak and toenails: flesh. Eye color: bull. [//s1,s2 or //Wt ~/~ //tm]
33. **Baldhead – (All Colors + Grizzle):** White markings on the head should stay inside the neck frill and end at the back of the skull. All of the 10 primary flights should be white. The tail, rump, thighs, and lower part of the breast (midway between the horizontal part of the breast frill and the pantaloons) should be white. The neck, majority of the breast frill, secondary flights and wing shield should be colored. Applies to all colors. Iridescence: relevant to color. Beak and toenails: flesh. Eye color: bull. [//Bh]
34. **Pied/Splash – (All Colors):** A colored bird with between 1/3 and 2/3 of its plumage a randomly dispersed white. Applies to all colors. Iridescence: relevant to color. Beak and toenails: relevant to color or flesh. Eye color: orange, false pearl/gravel, or bull. Eyes with each being a different color are acceptable. [//Pi]
35. **A.O.C. – (Any Other Color):** This color class includes all colors and patterns that do not belong to one of the previous 34 recognized color classes. Some examples of this would be: Barless, Reduced, Opal, Toy Stencil, Whiteside, Magpie, etc. [//]
- Whenever a group of five (5) or more of any one color or pattern are shown as AOC's, they shall be removed from the AOC class and judged as a single class without regard to age or sex. Color classification for the separated group must be recorded, named, and added to the show results turned in for the show. The judge's opinion that this group represents the Chinese Owl and qualifies as a single class is final.