

Dachshund Colors: Red (Black Overlay, Clear, Liver Nose, and Dilute), Black and Tan, Solid Black, Black and Cream, Chocolate and Tan, Solid Chocolate, Chocolate and Cream, American Cream , English Cream, Shaded Cream, Wheaten, Wild Boar, Blue and Tan, and Isabella and Tan.

RED: (found in all 3 hair types and all patterns) Refers to anything from a deep mahogany red to a pale golden red. Nose and nails must be black, eye color a deep brown. Red dachshunds can have a black overlay, meaning black hair disbursed throughout the coat or a stripe down the back and tail or black on tips of ears. These black hairs may have red tip. This is often confused with the sable pattern which is not correct. Refer to sable in patterns for an accurate description. If the dachshund is a smooth coat, it cannot be Sable. Dachshunds with black overlays should be registered as red only. Clear red is a red dachshund with no hint of black anywhere on the body. A red with a brown nose is a Liver Nose Red. Again, these are registered as red only. The red color can be affected by a blue dilution gene. This does not produce a cream. The dog may be a light shade of red or even cream colored, but the nose will be slate blue grey in color as with the blue that are produced as a result of the dilute gene and should be listed as red dilute. White on chest is permitted but not desirable. A white patch on the chest does not make a dog dappled or piebald.

Black and Tan: (found in all 3 hair types and effected by all patterns except sable.) Black and Tan is a Black with Tan markings points over the eyes, on muzzle, feet and under the tail. Nose and Nails are black, eyes are dark brown. A **Solid Black** dachshund with no tan markings is considered undesirable in the show ring, but a beauty. Any of the colors that include tan markings can be missing them. It is believed that a separate unidentified gene affects the tan points so they do not show. There is also a **Black and Cream** where the tan points are replaced with cream points. This happens by the same gene responsible for the English Creams. Tan Points are part of the Agouti group and are affected by chinchilla dilution. The brindle pattern in these dogs will show only in the tan/cream points.

Chocolate and Tan: (found in all 3 hair types, affected by all patterns except sable) Chocolate and Tan is a light brown to a dark Chocolate color resembling Hershey's chocolate with tan markings (like a Black and Tan). They can lack tan points and be Solid Chocolate. Nose and nails will be liver colored. There is no ting of red on a chocolate. There is also a Chocolate and Cream where the tan points are replaced with cream points. This happens by the same gene responsible for the English Creams. Tan Points are part of the Agouti group and are affected by chinchilla dilution. The brindle pattern in these dogs will show only in the tan/cream points.

Cream: (Found in long and smooth coats and all patterns) Cream is an extension of the red color. The chinchilla dilution gene dilutes only red or the Agouti series making a true cream. A true English Cream dachshund will be a very light yellowish color sometimes referred to as the color of an eggshell and only longhair. The nose and nails must be black, eyes must be dark brown. A true English Cream dachshund will have imported British Cream in their pedigree. True English Creams are born grayish black and gradually lighten to cream as they mature. So far, true English Creams only exist in the miniature longhair variety in the U.S., and they all have extensive English/British lines in their pedigrees. If a dog advertised as a cream does not have

a lot of British (UK) dogs in the first 3 or 4 generations of its pedigree, it can't be a true English Cream, as all of the true cream dogs in this country have come from England in the last decade.

However, even a dog with a lot of British dogs in its background may not be a true English Cream if its nose and nails are not black or if it has any red shading in its coat. This is where the confusion starts because American dogs have been mixed in and we get "fraction dogs". This means that an English Cream was bred with an American Red but is still considered 7/8, 3/4, or 5/8 English Cream and therefore called English Cream. The first breeding to the American Red will not produce Cream puppies but if the offspring are bred to other English Creams you will result in Cream dogs. This can also change the "nails have to be black" statement because lots of times the nails end up being clear - but not liver colored. Nose is still black and eyes are dark brown.

To further confuse the Cream category, dogs that are bred frequently in the American lines end up with a huge variety of explanations and some of those are almost impossible to figure out. If the dog does not have at least a majority of British Lines in the pedigree, do not consider the possibility for English Cream. That leads to American Creams. An American Cream will be anywhere from a very, very light red (a golden hue) to a dark cream in color. Where the American Cream comes from is the pedigree. American Creams are from a majority of American line dogs. Same rules apply that are for the English Creams.

And yet more confusion; American Creams also include the cream smooth hairs and those dogs that meet the cream color but not in pedigree or other aspects. A puppy who is born cream-colored is nothing more than a very clear, American, or possible dilute red having greenish/red eyes and liver nails. Red Dilutes that are very light or almost white are often called American Creams but if the nose or nails are liver colored, it should be labeled a red dilute (on papers, red) even if the color is cream. Some puppies appear to have black noses and they "peel off" and produce liver colored after a few weeks. Also the eyes of dilutes are often greenish or red which is a dead give-away.

The thing to remember is there is NO RED TINT to a true Cream dachshund. Dogs with a red tint should be labeled as reds. If the dog is clearly cream then all other factors should be considered in determining where the dog places in the Cream pool. Eyes, nose, nails and hair should be the next factors and then pedigree.

A Shaded Cream is a cream dog with black ear tips, and varying degrees of black as an overlay down the back and tail. Creams are usually not associated with a pattern but it can happen. Piebald is more frequent than others

Wheaten: (found in wirehair and smooth, affected by all patterns) Wheaten is best described as the color of straw. It is generally a wirehair color but has been found in smooth. Often is not associated with a pattern but could happen.

Wild Boar: (found in wirehair and smooth, effected by all patterns except sable). Wild Boar is basically the equivalent to the Sable pattern in a longhaired dachshund but is considered a color, not a pattern. A Wild Boar is so dark it looks like a black and tan from a distance and can

appear to be dirty as a first impression. All body hairs, except on the face and feet, are banded with two colors, the base color (red) is closest to the dog's body, while the darker color (black) occurs further down the hair to the tip. The face and feet will be the dog's base color giving the appearance of a black and tan. This color is associated with the wire hair but can occur in a smooth. It can have a pattern but typically doesn't. This is different from black overlay where the hairs are intermingled, some hairs are red, and some hairs are black, but no strand has both colors on it. With Wild Boar, you can push up the fur and see a definite fullness of red on the bottom and black on top.

Blue and Tan: (found in all 3 hair types, effected by all patterns except sable) Blue and Tan is a gunmetal blue color to a light gray with tan markings as described for the Black and Tan dogs. They can lack the tan points like any dachshund that typically has tan points. Nose and nails will be gray. Eye color is gray. There is no black on a Blue and Tan dachshund. Blue and Tan is a dilute form of Black and Tan caused by the blue dilution gene. Some cases of Black and Tan Double Dapple can cause a grayish coloration. This is due to the pattern and not the color. Some dachshunds that are affected by the dilute gene are prone to a genetic disease called alopecia. Diluted colors typically have thinner hair than normal.

Isabella (Fawn) and Tan: (found in all 3 hair types, effected by all patterns except sable) Isabella and Tan is a faded or grayish chocolate color resembling the cream on coffee or lighter with tan points. Sometimes can be silver bell colored. They can lack tan points. Nose and nails will be liver colored. Isabella and Tan is a dilute form of Chocolate and Tan caused by the blue alopecia.

Patterns: Brindle, Dapple, Double Dapple, Piebald, Sable.

Brindle: Has dark stripes, resembling tiger stripes, over the dog's base color. A red brindle will have reddish black stripes all over its body. Black and Tan brindles show the brindle pattern on the tan markings, because the dark stripes are not visible against the black coat. One parent must be a brindle in order to produce a brindle puppy.

Dapples: Shows areas of lighter or diluted base color in a random pattern. A dapple dachshund is the result of the "merle gene" which randomly dilutes the basic color. Black and tan dapples have patches of silvery colored hair mixed in with areas of black hair. In red dapples, the pattern of lighter red patches often fades with age. The dark color is always the base color. While the dog may appear to be a solid color, if it has the smallest patch or patches of dappling at birth, it should ALWAYS be registered as a dapple. One parent MUST be a dapple to produce a dapple puppy. A puppy registered as a solid that is actually a dapple, will produce some dapple puppies when bred to a dog with no pattern present.

Double Dapples: Double Dapples have areas of bright white on their bodies in addition to the base color and dappled patches. These patches of white can be anywhere from a white splash on the chest and on the toes, to a dog being predominantly white. A black and tan double dapple may have patches of blue, black, and silver on white. Often, dappling occurs on the eye and there will be spots of blue on the iris or blue eyes. Unlike the Piebald pattern, a double dapple can have white on one side of the head or on one leg and not the other.

Breeding dapple to dapple produces the double dapple pattern. If you decide to do this you can expect 4% of the offspring to be malformed in some way. Puppies may be deaf, blind, have small heads or eyes, or be deformed in some other way. On the other hand you may get beautiful healthy puppies. Don't count on it, and don't do it unless you are prepared to deal with the consequences.

Piebald: A white coat with one of the base colors in a spotting affect. There is no variation in the color of the spots as in a double dapple Dachshunds. A piebald NEVER has blue eyes. The amount of white on a piebald ranges from an almost completely white to having a white collar, white chest, belly, and feet, and a white tail tip. Usually the color markings are symmetrical, meaning, if one ear is the base color, both ears will be. All variations are acceptable. Dots of color may appear on the white areas varying from a few to many. Referred to as "ticking", this is a part of the piebald pattern and is acceptable. Both parents must either be piebald or carry the piebald gene, to produce a piebald pup. Two piebald parents will produce all piebalds in a litter.

Sable: The least seen of all patterns and is found only in Longhair variety. Sable is the equivalent of the Wild Boar pattern in the Smooth and Wirehair dachshund. Many uneducated breeders mistakenly call a red dog with a heavy black overlay a sable. A red sable is so dark it looks like a black and tan from a distance. All body hairs, except on the face and feet, are banded with two colors, the base color (red) is closest to the dog's body while the darker color (black) occurs further down the hair to the tip. The face and feet will be the dog's base color giving the appearance of a black and tan. One parent MUST be a sable to produce a sable puppy.