

IDENTIFYING THE ARABIAN HORSE

A Guide to Color and Markings

Chestnut



Bay



Grey



Faint Star



Star, Snip



Star, Strip, Snip



Star and Strip, Snip



Facial Markings



Star, Blaze and Snip over Nostrils onto Lower-Lip



Star, Strip, and Snip



Star, Strip, Snip into Left Nostril



Star, Blaze and Snip over Nostrils to Lip



Star, Blaze and Snip over Nostrils to Lip



Star, Strip, Snip into Left Nostrils to Lower-Lip

Chestnut Arabians are a copper color, from a light golden-red to dark brown or "liver chestnut". They may have a "flaxen" or blonde mane and tail. Often the mane and tail are the same color as the body. The rule of genetics followed by the AHA Registry is that the mating of two Chestnuts always results in a Chestnut foal.

Bay Arabians come in reddish-brown hues distinguished by black points (mane, tail, legs, ears, knees, hocks or combination). If there are white markings on the legs, there will usually be black above the markings.

Grey Arabians have a mixture of white and dark hairs growing out of dark skin. Grey foals are usually born chestnut or bay and within weeks show signs of grey around the eyes, flank and below the elbow. As grey horses age, their coat colors lighten, sometimes appearing to be white. The genetics rule followed by the AHA Registry is that a foal will not turn grey unless one parent is grey.

Black



Black Arabians have a black coat, including the muzzle, flanks, and legs with the exception of white markings. If any doubt arises between black and dark bay, black can be determined by noting the fine black hairs on the muzzle.

Roan



Roan Arabians are defined as a horse with about a fifty-fifty mixture of white hairs with either chestnut, bay or black hairs throughout the body. The mixture is usually white and chestnut, creating the "strawberry roan" as illustrated. Roans show their permanent coat color after shedding their foal coats. Unlike greys, they do not dapple nor do they progressively lighten in color.



None



Coronet



Pastern



Fetlock



Sock



Stocking

Leg Markings



Partial Coronet



Partial Fetlock



Stocking



Stocking