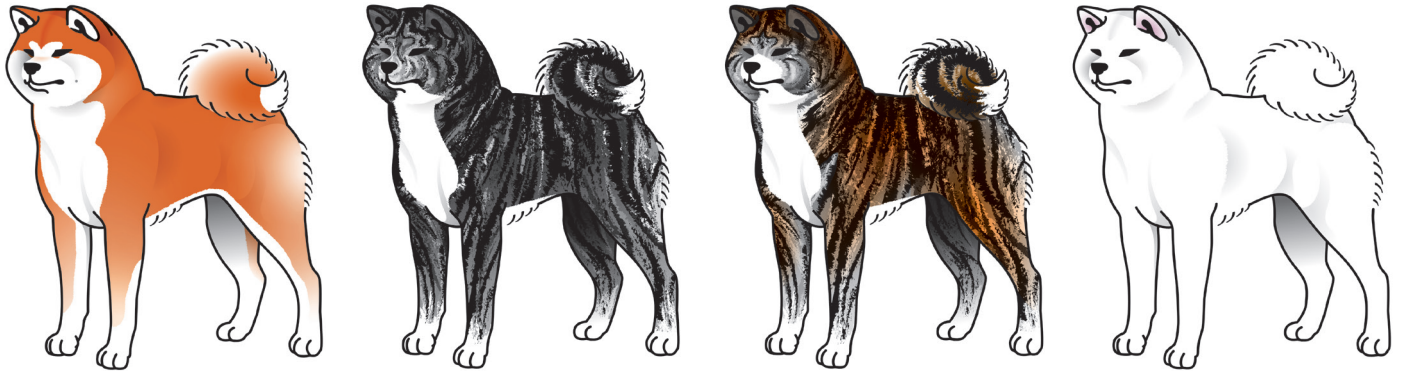


# COLOR

VISUAL QUICK  
GUIDE FOR AKC



Coat color is as specified herein, with the three allowed colors given equal consideration – red, brindle (of varying colors) and white. All colors are rich, clear, and bright. Red and brindle coats must possess *urajiro* (light cream or white underside shading).



## ALL COLORS

### EYES



Dark Brown Iris, Black Rim



**FAULT:** *light colored irises*



**FAULT:** *light pigment eye rims*

### NOSE



Black



Faded black and snow nose  
acceptable for white dogs



**DQ:** *butterfly*

**DQ:** *albinism, black mask*

## WHITE

For whites, color should be as bright as possible.



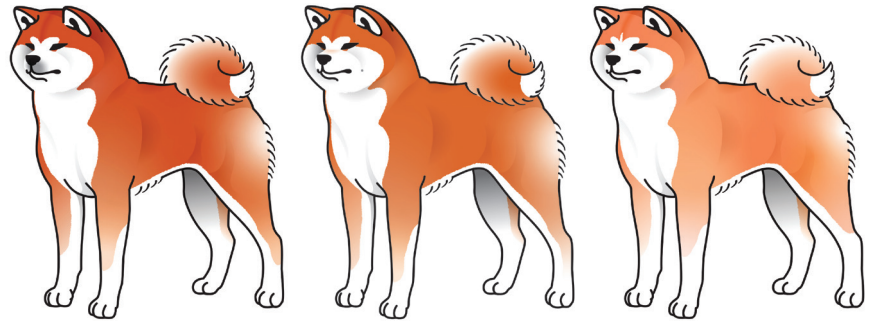
*pale red, not white*



**FAULT:** *biscuit color*

# RED

For reds, the color should be vivid and rich. The white on the face should not be excessive. *Omotejiro* is the white or cream shading found on the sides of the muzzle and cheeks. *Urajiro* may appear on the underside of the jaw, neck, abdomen and tail, and on the inside of the legs; the red on the legs will fade in gradient to the white. A white-tipped tail is preferred.

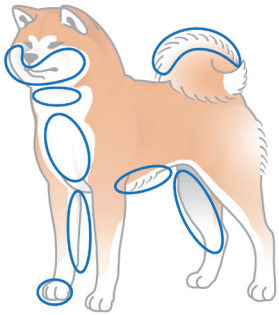


← preferred range →

excessive white

**FAULT:** hachiware

**DQ:** black mask



**OMOTEJIRO & URAJIRO**



**SERIOUS FAULT:** black saddle



**DQ:** pinto

For red dogs, the undercoat on the tail will be grey, but with proper **urajiro**, the guard hairs will be white on the underside and red on the top.



**SERIOUS FAULT:** full collar



**DQ:** hachiware connected to full collar



**FAULT:** excessive ticking on legs or muzzle



preferred



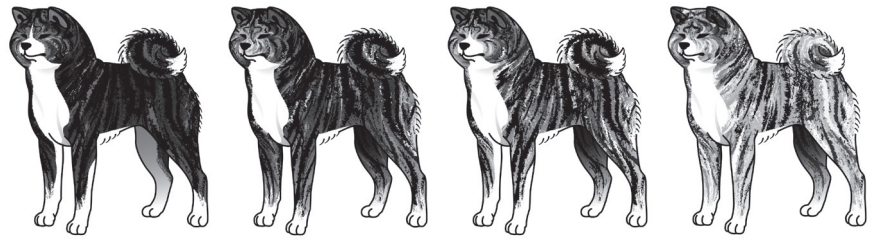
← excessive white on legs & chest →



pale

# BRINDLE

For brindles, the pattern is defined as clearly marked dark fine streaks or stripes laid over a lighter background color. A brindle coat is identified as red brindle (of varying shades), black brindle, or a subtype called *shimofuri* (greysilver). Brindles may be self-masked or possess a white blaze that extends up the muzzle. The preferred brindle possesses *roppaku* (six points of white markings) which may be of varying degrees, on the muzzle, four paws, and tip of the tail. *Urajiro* for brindles may appear on the underside of the jaw, neck, abdomen, tail, and on the inside of the legs.



← KUROTORA (black brindle) →

SHIMOFURI



← AKATORA (red brindle) →

SHIMOFURI



self mask



← blaze →



**FAULT:** hachiwari



**DQ:** black mask



front



back

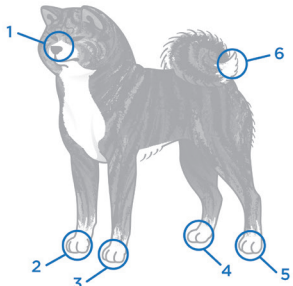
**SERIOUS FAULT:** full collar



**DQ:** hachiwari connected to full collar



**FAULT:** excessive ticking on legs or muzzle



**ROPPAKU**  
(ideal 6 points of white)



**URAJIRO**  
(white underside shading)



undesirable gaps or lack of brindle pattern



poor distribution of colors in brindle pattern



**DQ:** pinto