



Horse Colors & Markings

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The American Quarter Horse Color Chart



GRAY



BLACK



BAY



SORREL



CHESTNUT



BROWN



BUCKSKIN



PALOMINO



DUN



GRULLO



RED DUN



BLUE ROAN



RED ROAN

Brown



Body color brown or black with light areas at muzzle, eyes, flank and inside upper legs; mane and tail black

Bay



Body color ranging from tan, through red, to reddish brown; black mane and tail; usually black on lower legs

Black



Body color true black without light areas; mane and tail black

Chestnut



Body color dark red or brownish-red; mane and tail usually dark red or brownish-red, but may be flaxen

Sorrel

Body color reddish or copper-red;
mane and tail usually same color
as body; but may be flaxen.



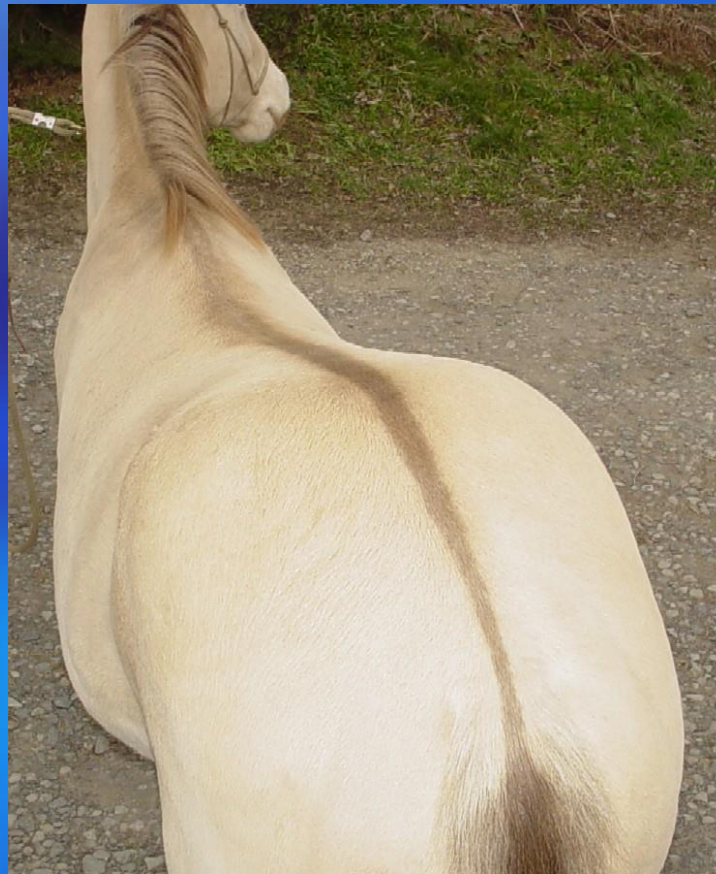
White

Body color white; skin is pink; eyes are usually dark; small black spots may be found in the skin, but usually are not accompanied by colored hair. Some white horses may be variegated, meaning they have patches of colored hair, usually intermixed with white.



Dun

Body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail are black or brown; has dorsal stripe and usually zebra stripes on legs, and transverse stripe over withers



Red Dun



A form of dun with body color yellowish or flesh colored, mane and tail are red or reddish, flaxen, white or mixed; has red or reddish dorsal stripe and usually red or reddish zebra stripes on legs and transverse stripe over withers.

Grullo



Body color smoky or mouse-colored (not a mixture of black and white hairs, but each hair mouse-colored); mane and tail black; usually has black dorsal stripe and black on lower legs

Gray or Grey



Mixture of white with any other colored hairs; often born solid-colored or almost solid-colored and get lighter with age as more white hairs appear.

Red Roan



More or less uniform mixture of white with red hairs on a large portion of the body, but usually darker on head and lower legs; can have red or flaxen mane and/or tail

Blue Roan

More or less uniform mixture of white with black hairs over a large portion of the body, but usually darker on head and lower legs; can have a few red hairs in mixture



Bay Roan



More or less uniform mixture of white with red hairs on a large portion of the body; darker on head, usually red but can have a few black hairs in mixture; black mane and tail and black on lower legs.

Palomino



Body color a golden yellow; mane and tail white;
typically palominos do not have dorsal stripes

Buckskin



Body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail are black; black on lower legs; typically buckskins without dorsal stripe

Cremello



True Blue McCue

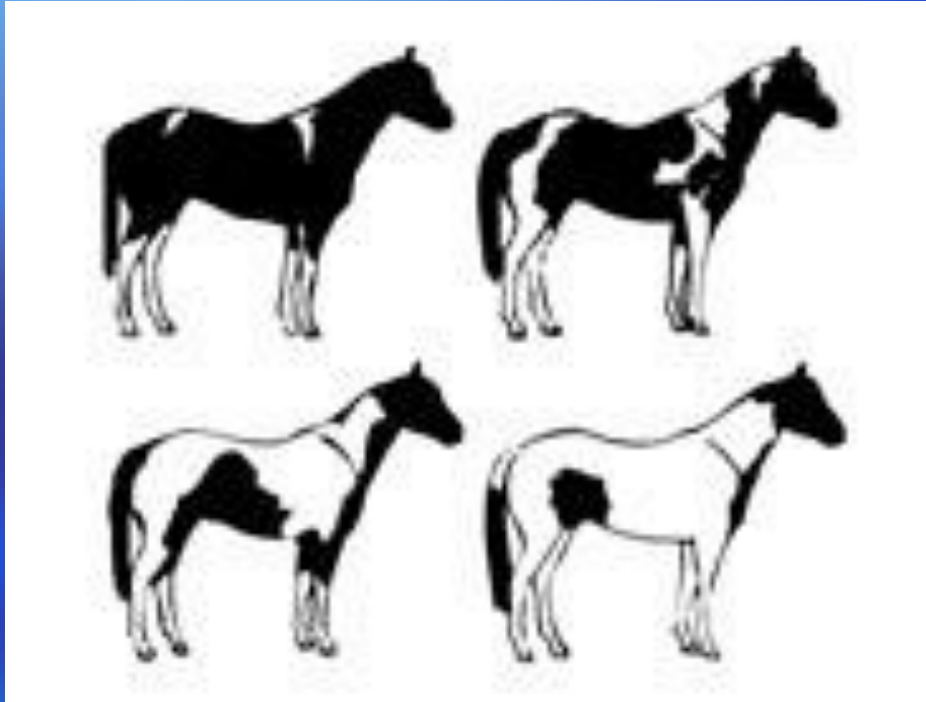
Light (or pink) skin over the body, white or cream-colored hair and blue eyes.

Perlino



Light (or pink) skin over the body, white or cream-colored hair and blue eyes. Mane, tail and lower legs slightly darker than body color.

Tobiano



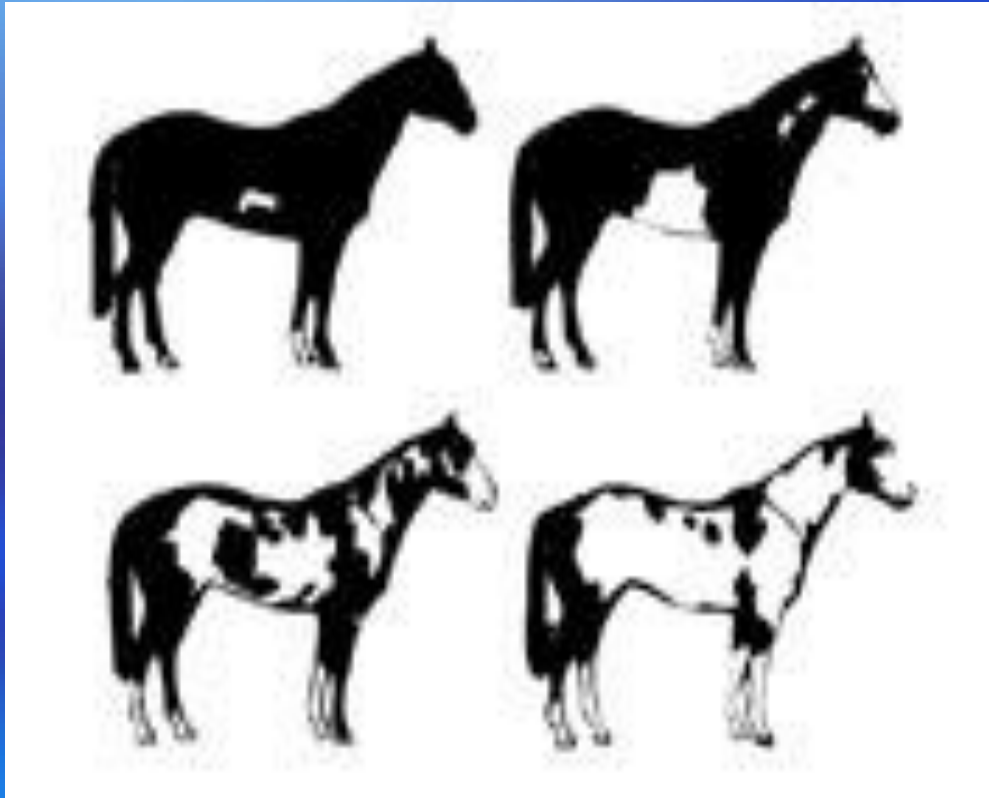
- Dark color usually covers one or both flanks.
- Generally all four legs are white.
- Color is more regular with oval-shaped spots.
- Head markings are like a solid-colored horse.
- May be predominantly dark or white.
- Tail is often two colors.

Tobiano



White markings usually cross the back between the withers and tail

Overo



- Usually white will not cross the back of the horse between withers and tail.
- Generally dark legs.
- Color is irregular, scattered or splashy.
- Often loud head markings, for example, a bald face.
- May be predominantly dark or white.
- Tail is usually one color.

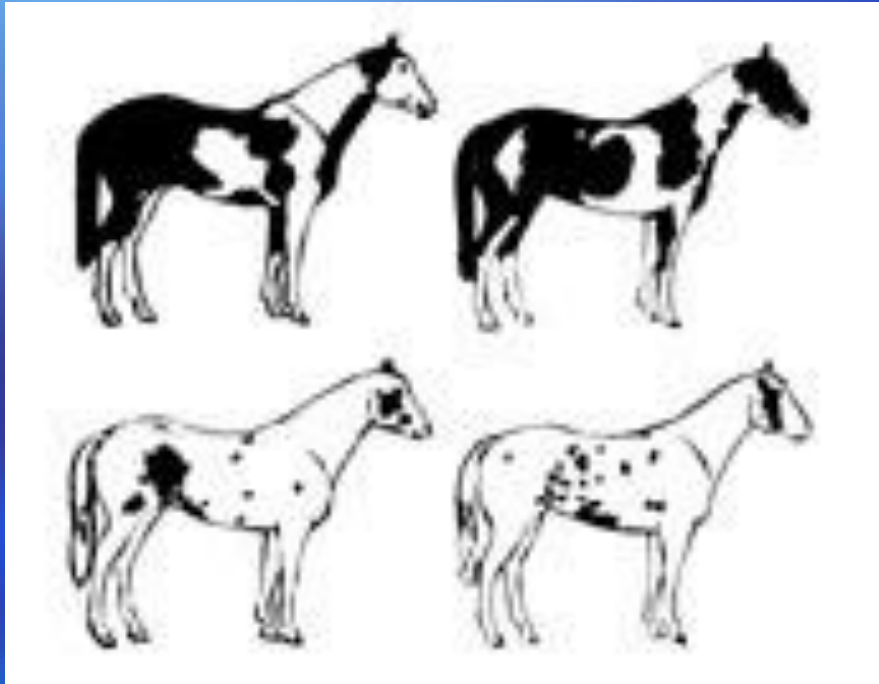
Overo

White markings usually do not cross the back between the withers and tail

Frame overo
Sabino
Splashed white



Tovero



- Combination of tobiano and overo characteristics.
- Dark pigment around ears.
- One or both eyes are “glass” or blue eyes.
- Dark pigment around the mouth.
- Usually have chest spots, flank spots and spots around the base of the tail.

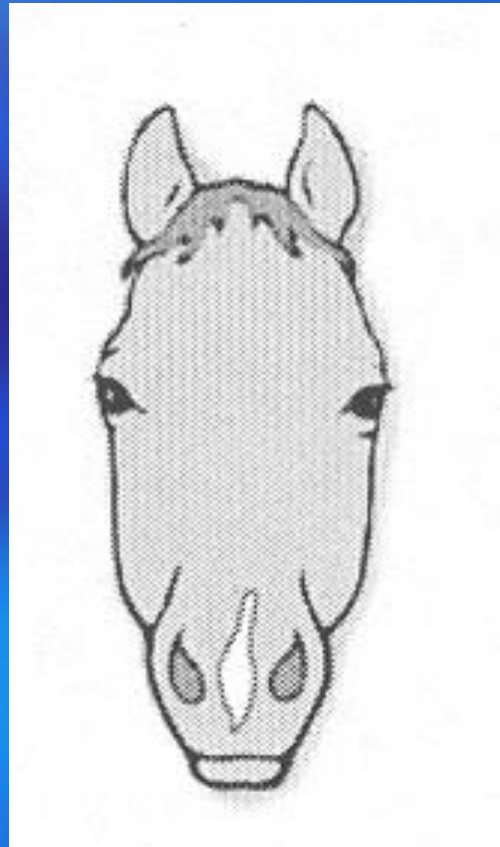
Tovero



A combination of the Tobiano and Overo coat patterns

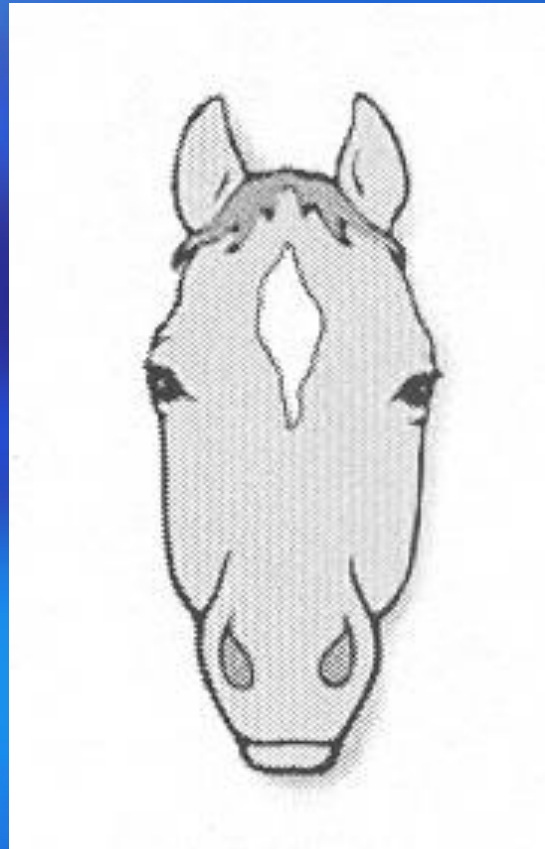
Snip

Any white marking between the two nostrils



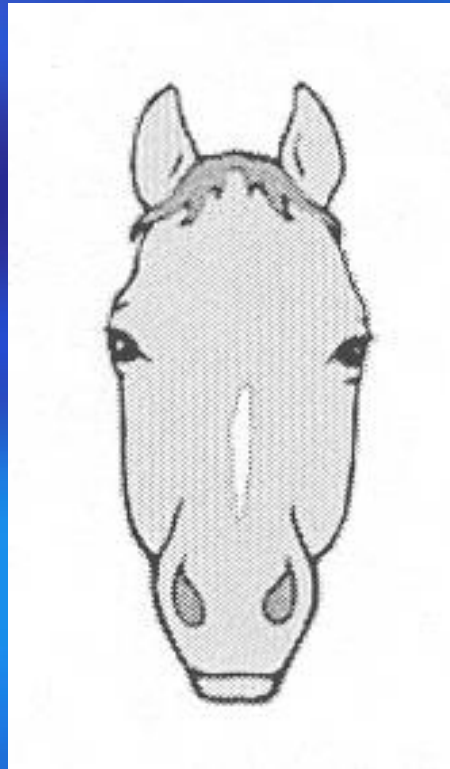
Star

Any marking on the forehead



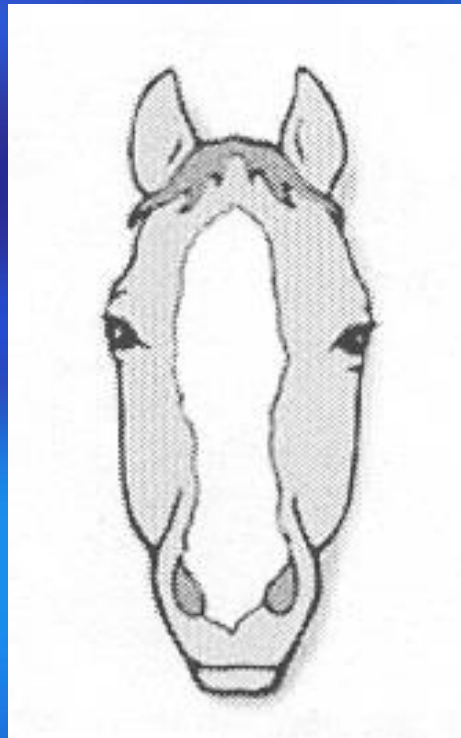
Strip

A narrow marking extending vertically in the area between the forehead and the nostrils



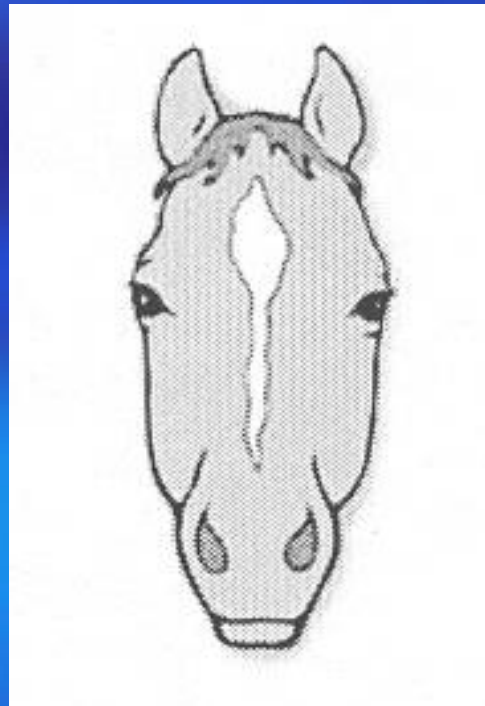
Blaze

A vertical marking of medium, uniform width extending the length of the face



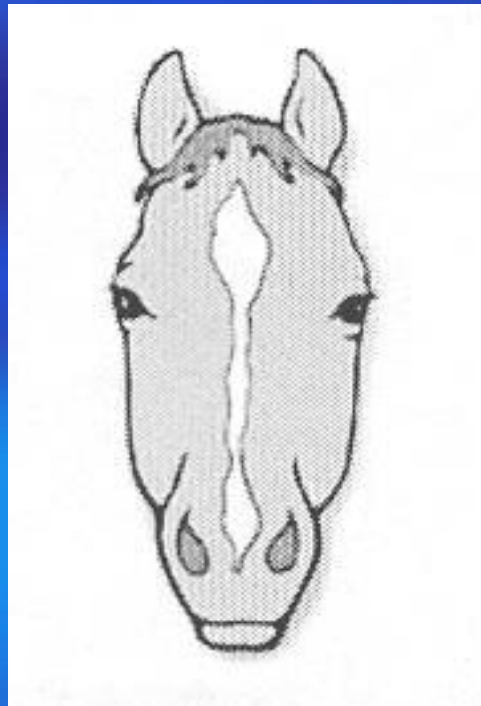
Star and Strip

A marking on the forehead with a strip to the nasal peak. The strip does not have to be an extension of the star.



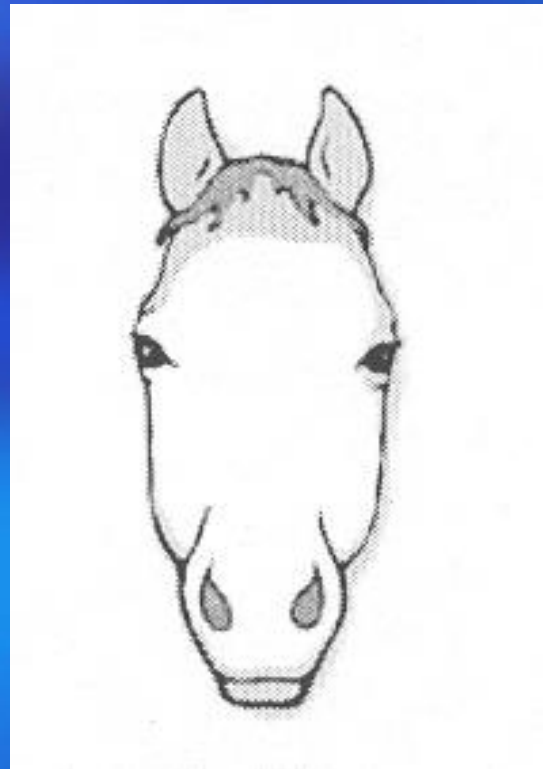
Star, Strip, & Snip

A marking on the forehead with a narrow extension of the nasal peak and opening up again between the nostrils. These may be connected.



Bald Face

A very broad blaze. It can extend out and around the eyes and it can extend down to the upper lip and around the nostrils.



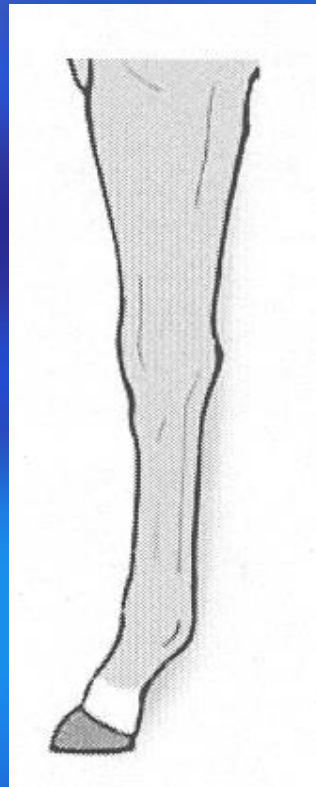
Coronet

Any narrow marking around the coronet above the hoof



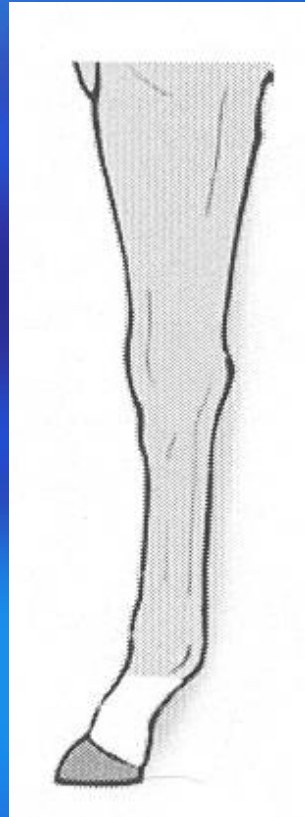
Half Pastern

A marking which includes only half the pastern above the coronet



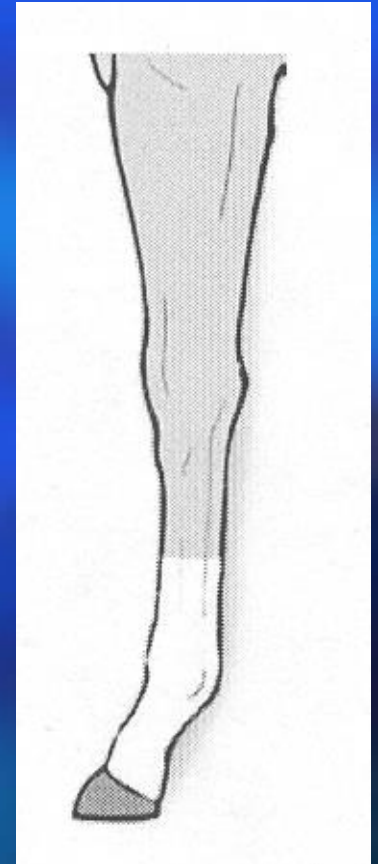
Pastern

A marking which includes the entire pastern



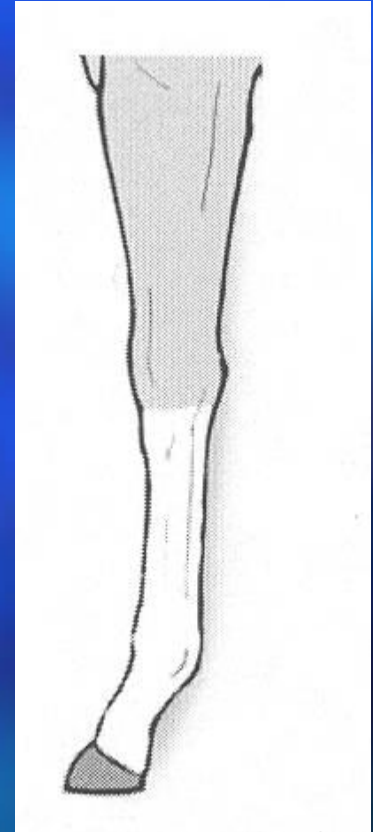
Sock

A marking which extends around the leg, from the coronet halfway up the cannon bone, or halfway to the knee on the foreleg or halfway to the hock on the back leg.



Stocking

A full marking to the area of the knee on the foreleg and to the area of the hock on the hind leg. It is an extended sock.



Summary

Color....simply the coat color of the horse

Color Pattern....the way the color/colors are laid out or designed on the coat of the horse

Markings....terms used to define or describe white places on face and legs of the horse

Color, Color Pattern, & Markings....especially when used in combination, they can serve to describe a horse or identify a specific horse