

*Tovero*



*Tovero*



# The patterns of the American Paint Horse

Each Paint Horse has a coat pattern unlike any other, making your horse's appearance exclusive only to him. Although Paints come in a variety of colors with unique markings, there are only three specific coat patterns: overo, tobiano, and tovero.

For more information on coat patterns, contact:

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## *Tovero* (pronounced: tow vair' oh)

The combination of tobiano with any of the overo patterns is usually called tovero. Toveros may exhibit any combination of the following characteristics:

- Usually has more white than colored area, some nearly all white.
- Generally, all the contrasting markings are regular and distinct, appearing as ovals or round patterns that extend down over the neck and chest, giving the appearance of a shield.
- Usually has dark pigmentation around the ears, which may expand to cover the forehead and/or eyes.
- Generally has contrasting color covering one or both flanks.
- May have spots of varying size at the base of the tail.

## *Overo* (pronounced: oh vair' oh)

- The white usually does not cross the horse's back between its withers and tail.
- Generally, at least one leg, and often all four legs, are dark.
- Generally, the white markings are irregular, and are rather scattered or splashy.
- Head markings are distinctive. The horse is often bald-faced, apron-faced or bonnet-faced.
- An overo may be either predominantly dark or white.
- The tail is usually one color.

*Frame Overo*



*Frame Overo*



- Generally have dark feet and legs.
- Heads are usually extensively marked with white.
- White spots usually occur horizontally on the middle of the sides of the body and neck, and only rarely cross the topline.
- Many have a moustache, a pigmented upper lip, on an otherwise very white head.
- Blue eyes are very common.

*Splashed White Overo*



*Splashed White Overo*



- Usually have white legs, and the body is white ventrally.
- Head is extensively, and most often completely, white.
- Blue eyes are the rule.

*Sabino Overo*



*Sabino Overo*



- Usually have extensive leg white and facial white.
- Body spots are usually on the belly, and can occur as either roan or speckled areas.
- White markings tend to have narrow extensions up a leg or down the throat.
- Partially blue eyes are common.

*Tovero*  
*Tobiano*

## *Tobiano* (pronounced: tow be yah' no)

- The dark color usually covers one or both flanks.
- Generally, all four legs are white, at least below the hocks and knees.
- Generally, all the white markings are regular and distinct, appearing as ovals or round patterns that extend down over the neck and chest, giving the appearance of a shield.
- Head markings are like those of solid-colored horses—solid or with a blaze, strip, star or snip.
- A tobiano may be either predominantly dark or white.
- The tail is often two colors.

*Tobiano*



*Tobiano*



### *Additional Tobiano Traits*

#### *Ink spots*

Ink spots also known as "paw prints" are small spots of color. Ranging from 1 to 3 inches across. They are usually surrounded by a prominent "blue zone" (white hair on black-pigmented skin that give the hair a blue appearance).

#### *Coronet spots*

Colored spots located along the coronet band are often found on horses carrying the tobiano gene.

