



DECORAT STANDARD

The Decorat is a type of Thumbrat (term (c) Afuze of Finland) developed by Decors in 2021.

Build

Body: Large, and wellformed bodies. Bucks should be slightly more compact bodywise than does that can have a more slender look.

Head: The head is oval shaped without having the nose being too 'pointy'.

Eyes: Should be round, set wide apart and slightly protruding.

Ears: Ear types come in normal and dumbo. The later should be large, wellformed and be symmetrically situated on each side of the rat's head.

Tail: The tail of the rat should be about the length of the body, thick at the base and tapering off towards the tip. Tailless (full or partly) is a fault and should not be bred.

Size: Roughly 4-5 cm long (without tail), bucks are usually larger than does.

Colors: A whole range of colors, should carry as clear color as possible. Overly muddy colors are not desired. See more in the section of "Coat colors, patterns & coat types".

Coat types: Mainly smooth, but also rex are allowed. More information in the section of "Coat colors, patterns & coat types".

Ears

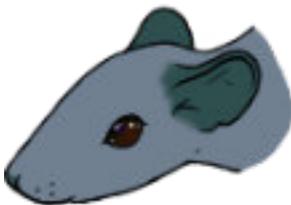


Normal ears

DUDU or Dudu

Dominant trait.

Normal sized and set on top of the head.



Dumbo ears

dudu

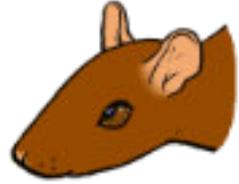
Recessive trait.

Dumbo ears are larger, rounder, and set lower to the side on the head.

Eyes

PiPi/Pipi
(carrier Pink)

Dominant wild type.



RR/Rr
(carrier Red)

Brown - top



nTe
(carrier Tiger eye)
- RARE!

Darkbrown/black
- bottom

pipi

Recessive pink
eye dilute gene.

Eyes are pale pink.



rr

Recessive red
eye dilute gene.

Eyes are
red to dark ruby.



TeTe

Recessive 'tiger eye'
dilute gene.

- RARE!

Eyes are
tawny or amber.



'Blue eyes'

(no known genotype)

Only on Marshmallow in
homozygous form.

Turns the eyes from
brown > blue (dark >
light blue) unless they
carry the pink/red trait.



Coat colors, patterns & coat types

A Decorat usually have dark skin, making ears, paws and tail darker than the coat color. How dark depends on the rat's base coat (twizzler, chocolate or licorice) Only in the areas where the rat have a white marking the skin turns light or pink. It is not known why the decorat has dark skin, if it's to preserve heat from the sun or something else.

Traits like color are inherited through genes. Every gene has two versions, called alleles. Dominant alleles, also known as homozygous, are superior in terms of strength - if a dominant allele is present, the trait it carries will always be visible. Recessive alleles' (heterozygous) features will only be visible if there are no dominant alleles.

Color Spread & Pangare



Color spread	Color spread	Pangare
SS / Ss (carrier)	Ss (recessive)	pp (recessive) PP / Pp (carrier)
Dominant type. Pigment is evenly spread out over the body.	Controls distribution of pigment. Concentrates the color to the "points" of the body (face, ears & feet) making the color seem stronger there. If compared, the rest of the body is a bit 'faded' in color.	Rat has pale hair around the eyes, muzzle and underside. It can extend up to the flanks, throat, chest, lower legs, behind the elbows and up the buttock.

Base Coat colors

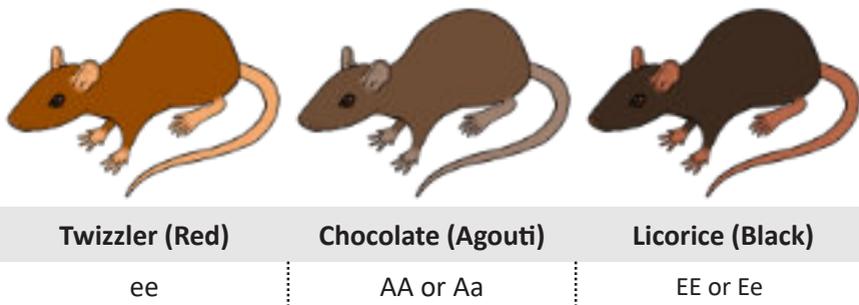
To make this easier to calculate how colors are inherited I've adopted the coat color system I know best, the one from horses. I've tried to modify it to fit with how I picture the Decorat's colors to be. There are two base colors, red and black, and on top of those there is agouti. However unlike horses with agouti, the Decorat with agouti is simply just brown without any black points on it's legs.

Red/chestnut, agouti and black are not called this within the decorat breed. Instead they go under the names of twizzler (red), chocolate (brown) and licorice (black).

Twizzler can range from copper-reddish to very dark-reddish brown, and Chocolate range from a tan or rich chocolate brown to a very dark seal brown. The difference between Twizzler and Chocolate usually comes down to the "lack of red hue" in the later.

Licorice rats should have all black coats without any areas of permanently reddish or brownish hair. However, together with a red candy carrier, as a rat with an almost black coat grows older, many will "rust". This will give them a more red brownish look (but not as much to confuse them with chocolate) but they are genetically black.

A rat with all candy colors in a heterozygous (nondominant) form will still have some sort of base color.



Big letter = Homozygous (dominant), Small letter = heterozygous (nondominant)

Candy colors

Main colors

Candy colors is the type of modifier that all Decorats come with. There are three main colors, red, yellow and blue. In combination on what base coat they are on they show differently on the rat.

The candy color is always dominant over the base color, and only when all types of candy color are heterozygous, the base will show. All candy colors show more clearly on twizzler and are more bright and “pure” colored.

On a chocolate base, since the gene controls the distribution of pigment, the colors can get a bit muted. Over a licorice base the candy color gets darker.



Red	Yellow	Blue
RR, Rr or rr	YY, Yy or yy	BB, Bb or bb

Big letter = Homozygous (dominant), Small letter = heterozygous (nondominant)

Example: $Rr/yy/bb$ = Red color

Within the three sets of code letters, there is one capital letter (Rr), and the rest are lowercase. This capital letter tells you which of the three genes are present, and having only one capital also tells you that the base coat is a recessive gene. If there's two consecutive capital letters in a set (ex: RR), then your decorat has a dominant base coat gene.

Secondary colors

Each gene gives a small amount of that color, having a dominant combination means the rat has double the color and saturation. When you mix/breed different colors, it is literally just taking the two parents colors and mixing them together.

The first generation is always the most simple knowing what you will get due to this. These colors are orange, green and purple. They are called the secondary colors and have the following genotypes;



Orange	Green	Purple
RR/YY/bb	rr/YY/BB	RR/yy/BB
R_/Y_/bb	rr/Y_/B_	R_/yy/B_

You can mix the colors further, adding more of one of the base colors. This 'extra dose' of secondary color will always attach itself to the homozygous part of the color genotype (marked out with a + sign).



Vermillon
 Red + Orange
 = Red orange
 R+R+/YY/bb
 R+_/Y_/bb

Amber
 Yellow + Orange
 = Yellowy orange
 RR/Y+Y+/bb
 R_/Y+_/bb

Chartreuse
 Yellow + Green
 = Yellowy green
 rr/Y+Y+/BB
 rr/Y+_/B_



Teal
 Blue + Green
 = Bluish green
 rr/YY/B+B+
 rr/Y_/B+_

Violet
 Blue + Purple
 = Bluish purple
 RR/yy/B+B+
 R_/yy/B+_

Fuchsia
 Red + Purple
 = Reddish purple
 R+R+/yy/BB
 R+_/yy/B_

Tertiary colors

To get the colors of this third group, you mix one of the main colors and a secondary color. You can also get tertiary colors by mixing two secondary colors together as well as mix two tertiary colors with each other.



Russet

Orange + Purple =
dark brown with
a red-orange tinge

$R+R+/_Y/_B/B$

$R+/_Y/_B/_$



Slate

Purple + Green
= greyish blue

$R/_Y/_B+B+$

$R/_Y/_B+/_$



Citron

Green + Orange
= dark lemon yellow

$RR/_Y+/_B/B$

$R/_Y+/_B/_$



Plum

Russet + Slate =
purple with a
brow-grey tinge

$R+/_Y/_B+/_$



Buff

Citron + Russet
= light brownish yellow

$R+/_Y+/_B/_$



Sage

Slate + Citron
= grey-green

$R/_Y+/_B+/_$

Big letter = Homozygous (dominant), Small letter = heterozygous (nondominant)

Dilutions

Marshmallow

Marshmallow is a 'tint' dilution that affects the candy modifier and bleaches it towards white. It has also been called 'pastel' since in heterozygous form it turns the colors more pastel-like. The rat has normal eyecolor. However, marshmallow in homozygous form is more creamy/ivory white with just a faint trace of the candy color it's on rather than a bright white.

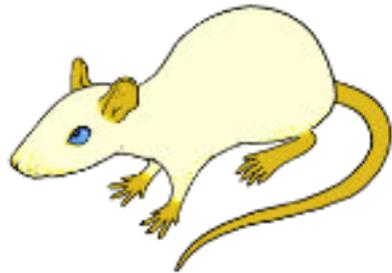
The gene doesn't make the rat completely 'white' either, in addition to still having pigmented ears it has colored flecks on the body (in full opacity of the candy color). These flecks are concentrated to the points of the rat (especially nose and upper part of the legs). In homozygous form it turns the rat's eyes blue (dark to light blue) unless they carry the trait for pink or red eyes.



Marshmallow (nM)

Example on yellow

rr/Yy/bb nM



Marshmallow (MM)

Example on yellow

rr/YY/bb MM

Salmiak

Salmiak is a 'shade' dilution that affects the candy modifier and saturates the color to a more dull/darker version. To not confuse it with SS/Ss or ss the genetic code is K. In heterozygous form salmiak turns the colors more dull. The rat has normal eyecolor. Salmiak in homozygous form is darker (but not pitch black) shade of the candy color. Tiger eyes are more likely to occur on a homozygous salmiak rat.



Salmiak (nK)
Example on red
Rr/yy/bb nK



Salmiak (KK)
Example on red
RR/yy/bb KK

Mixing two tertiary colors + salmiak have been given some colors their own names.



Blue grey
Plum + Sage
+ Salmiak
= bluish grey

R+_/Y_/B+_/KK
R+_/Y_/B+_/nK



Grey brown
Buff + Plum
+ Salmiak
= brownish grey

R+_/Y+_/B_/KK
R+_/Y+_/B_/nK



Khaki
Sage + Buff + Salmiak
= light brown
with yellow tinge

R_/Y+_/B+_/KK
R_/Y+_/B+_/nK

Big letter = Homozygous (dominant), Small letter = heterozygous (nondominant)

Mutations

The decorat have a few coat mutations. Some, like neon and radioactive shows are more clear on light colors. Others only show if there are two or more colors blended together.

Dominant white

A dominant white is what it sounds like, it's all white! No trace of either base color nor the main candy color. They do carry a color genetically, just not visible. They have pink or red eyes and it's believed that it's from this mutation that trait comes from.



ww
 WW/Ww (carrier)

Neon

Neon gives the coat color a neonstark tone. Seems to only show on main colors the best and dulls the more the colors are mixed.



$NeNe$
 nNe (carrier)

Radioactive - Recessive

A radioactive rat has fur that glows in the dark. Sometimes the gene also affects the eyes of the rat making them glow in the dark as well. It is unknown where the genetics come from.



$RaRa$
 nRa (carrier)

Gradient - Recessive

Gradient will not show on main colored rats even in its homozygous form since there is just one color that will show. Range of colors will reflect what colors the rat carries, for example a green rat will show yellow - green - blue, even if the genotype say "green".



$GrGr$
 nGr (carrier)

Coat patterns

False and True patterns, overmarked and undermarked

False pattern means that the marking lay over the candy color. The marking is always in a darker color than the candy color. A true pattern rat means that the pattern is in combination with white. In a written out genotype it is marked out by either "F" or "T".

Breeding each type with eachother simply gives the chance that the litter will either be all "true", all "false" or a mix of the two types of pattern. With overmarked it means that its more white (the marking is smaller) then it should have according to the standard.

With undermarked it means less white (the marking is larger) than it should have according to the standard. White markings can be written out on a patterned rat. See markings for more information.



Self*

SoSo / nSo

Completely solid color with no white at all.



Broken Self

BsBs / nBs

Mostly solid with white legs, belly, and tail-tip. Homozygous usually have bigger markings than heterozygous.



Belting

BtBt / nBt

Broad stripe around the middle. Should not go past the shoulder or flank or be too narrow.

Big letter = Homozygous (dominant), Small letter = heterozygous (nondominant)

**Real life inspired rat patterns but with my own genotypes*



Colourside

CsCs / nCs

Homozygous CS have a mostly white body with pigmented ears, muzzle and feet. A colored line along the side of the body. Hetrozygous instead shows the pattern with a white dorsal stripe (can be roaned) + a roaned face.

Hood*

HdHd / nHd

Color over the head, neck, shoulders, and down the back in a stripe to the tail.



Tan Points (recessive)

TPTP / nTP (carrier)

The range is restricted, appearing as pips above the eyes, on the sides of the muzzle extending to the cheeks, pips on the cheeks, front of the neck below the head, and two patches on the front of the chest, on the lower legs and feet. The color is always tan.

Cap*

CpCp / nCp

Color on head, leaving the rest of the body white. In some homozygous cases the hood only covers the eyes and is then called 'mask'.



Facial Markings

Markings does not have a genotype.

Blaze - a wide white stripe down the middle of the face.

Stripe - a narrow white stripe down the middle of the face.

Bald - a very wide blaze, extending to or past the eyes.

Star - a white marking between or above the eyes. If a stripe or blaze is also present, a star must be significantly wider than the vertical marking to be designated separately.

Snip - a white marking on the lower part of the muzzle, not going past the nose itself in size.

Additional terms can be used to describe facial markings

Faint - A small but permanent marking that usually consists of white hairs without any underlying pink skin.

Interrupted - A marking, usually a strip or blaze, that is broken and not solid for the entire length of the face.

Connected - Occasionally used to describe distinctively different markings that happen to be joined to one another

Irregular - A marking, usually a strip or blaze, that does not have a more or less straight path.

Legmarkings

Stocking - white marking that extends at least to the half of the forearm or bottom of the shin/hock, sometimes higher.

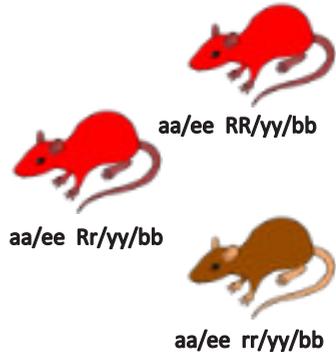
Sock - white marking that at least covers the paws.

Toes - white marking that covers at least the toes.

How to figure out color

To make it easier to figure out the color you can use a Punnett square. This goes for both the base coat as well as the candy color, shown is just the later, all examples of basecoat are the same. Each letter from the parents gets their own box. When it comes to breedings that are by mixed colored the litter automatically can also include the main colors.

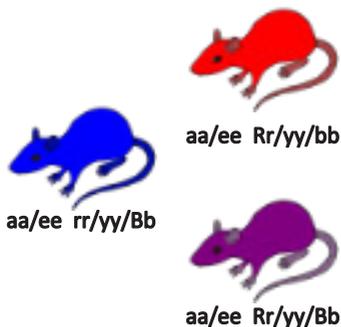
B/D	R	r	y	y	b	b
R	RR	Rr				
r	Rr	rr				
y			yy	yy		
y			yy	yy		
b					bb	bb
b					bb	bb



Example breeding 1:

Twizzler Red B (aa/ee Rr/yy/bb) + Twizzler Red D (aa/ee Rr/yy/bb)

RESULT: The offspring can be: **Twizzler** (aa/ee) **red** (RR/yy/bb or Rr/yy/bb). rr/yy/bb will not show any candy color at all, and will instead just show the base coat of the rat, in this case "twizzler" (red).



B/D	r	r	y	y	B	B
R	Rr	Rr				
r	rr	rr				
y			yy	yy		
y			yy	yy		
b					Bb	Bb
b					Bb	Bb

Example breeding 2:

Twizzler Red B (aa/ee Rr/yy/bb) + Twizzler Blue D (aa/ee rr/yy/BB)

RESULT: The offspring can be: **Twizzler** (aa/ee) **red** (Rr/yy/bb), **blue** (rr/yy/Bb). or **purple** (Rr/yy/Bb).

B/D	R	r	y	y	B	b
R	RR	Rr				
r	Rr	rr				
y			YY	YY		
y			YY	YY		
b					Bb	bb
b					bb	bb



aa/ee RR/yy/bb
aa/ee Rr/yy/bb

aa/ee rr/yy/Bb



aa/ee Rr/yy/Bb

aa/ee rr/yy/bb

Example breeding 3:

Twizzler Red B (aa/ee Rr/yy/bb) + Twizzler Purple D (aa/ee Rr/yy/Bb)

RESULT: The offspring can be: **Twizzler** (aa/ee) **red** (RR/yy/bb or Rr/yy/bb), **blue** (rr/yy/Bb). or **purple** (Rr/yy/Bb).

rr/yy/bb will not show any candy color at all, and will instead just show the base coat of the rat, in this case "twizzler" (red).



aa/ee RR/yy/bb
aa/ee Rr/yy/bb

aa/ee rr/yy/Bb



aa/ee Rr/yy/Bb
aa/ee RR/yy/B+b
aa/ee Rr/yy/B+b

B/D	R	r	y	y	B+	B
R	RR	Rr				
r	Rr	rr				
y			YY	YY		
y			YY	YY		
b					B+b	Bb
b					B+b	Bb

Example breeding 4:

Twizzler Red B (aa/ee Rr/yy/bb) + Twizzler Violet D (aa/ee Rr/yy/B+B)

RESULT: The offspring can be: **Twizzler** (aa/ee) **red** (Rr/yy/bb or Rr/yy/bb), **blue** (rr/yy/Bb). **purple** (RR/yy/Bb or Rr/yy/Bb) or **violet** (RR/yy/B+b or Rr/yy/B+b).