Symbols I use to identify my birds:

Color	check pattern	bar pattern	spread
Ash Red	ash red check (ARC)	ash red bar (ARB)	spread ash (SA)
Ash Yellow	ash yellow check(AYC)	ash yellow bar(AYB)	spread ash yellow(SAY)
Blue/	blue check (BKC)	blue bar (BB)	
Black	black check (BKC)		black (BLK)
True Silver/	true silver check(TSC)	true silver bar (TSB)	
Dun			dun (DUN)
Brown	brown check (SC)	silver bar (SB)	brown (BRN)
Khaki	khaki check (KC)	khaki bar (KB)	khaki (KH)

Indigo	=	/I	example: ARC/I
Grizzle	=	/GZL	ARC/GZL
Opal	=	/Op	BLK/Op
Faded	=	/f	BKC/f
Reduced	=	/r	BB/r
Pale	=	/p	BRN/p
Recessive red	=	RR	RR
Recessive Yellow	=	RY	RY
Recessive Gold	=	RG	RG
White	=	WHT	WHT
Any other color	=	/AOC	ARC/AOC

Then we have factors; indigo, opal, grizzle, faded, reduced, toy stencil, milky, pale, and recessive red to mention a few. These factors distort or change the appearance of the true color of the bird, which **must** be one of the three main colors. Outcrosses from other breeds can produce almond/magnani colored birds, however our three main colors are it for most Kings. I see in our June bulletin the Cajun King Club is having a RARE Futurity to include Almonds with the 3rd and 4th District Show in November. All I really know about Almond/Magnani is that it is dominate to all our standard King colors. So I assume that all 1st generation offspring would be almond and the cocks would carry a 2nd color of one of our standard King colors.

When speaking in terms of our base colors, keep in mind that the cock bird may have and often does have a second color, the one you see and the one he may carry. The same is true for a white or recessive red cock, except you will not see either color. Yes, you can indeed have a white or recessive red cock (for example) hides a first color of ash red, and a second color of black or brown. These colors will express themselves when the bird is mated to a non white or non recessive red. The cock birds color (the one you see) will always be the color of most dominance, so you will never get a brown cock that carries black or ash red, nor will you get a black cock that carries ash red. The hen does not carry a second color nor dilution, but may carry a second pattern (check carrying bar). The cock may carry a second pattern and carry dilution.

Order of dominance:

Intense color	Dilution	Symbols for chart
1st Ash red	Ash yellow	AR AY
2nd Blue/Black True Silver/Dun		B/B TS/Dun
3rd Brown	Khaki	BRN Kh

If the cock carries dilution, he should produce half the hens dilute of his two colors when mated to an intense hen. A dilute cock on an intense hen will have 100% dilute hens, and 100% intense cocks , which all carry dilution. A mating of an intense cock and a dilute hen will produce 100% intense young, but all the cocks will carry dilution. A mating of an intense cock that carries dilution to a dilute hen will produce both intense and dilute young of either sex. Mating a dilute cock to a dilute hen produces 100% dilute young.

*** = Cock carries dilution.**

Scenarios of intense/dilution matings:

Cock	Hen		Young expectations
1. Intense	Intense	=	100% of young intense
2. Intense*	Intense	=	C- 100% intense, 50% *
			H- 50% intense, 50% dilute
3. Intense	Dilute	=	C- 100% intense*, H- 100% intense
4. Intense*	Dilute	=	C- 50% intense*, 50% dilute
			H- 50% intense, 50% dilute
5. Dilute	Intense	=	C- 100% intense*, H-100% dilute
6. Dilute	Dilute	=	100% of young dilute

When the cock throws either his first or second color recessive to the hens color, or the hens color is recessive to either of the cocks two colors, all baby cocks second color will be that of the recessive color…….Example; AR cock carries B/B mated to a BRN hen…if the young cock is AR or B/B he will carry BRN, because BRN is recessive to both of his color options. The cock will contribute one color gene for the young, the hen may or may not contribute a color gene. When she does the young will be cocks, when she doesn't the young will be hens. So a cock has (+ +) two colors genes, and a hen has (+ -) one color gene. Any time the hen throws the blank (-), the young will be a hen because it has only one color. If the cock has two colors the same, then he is known as being homozygous in color, meaning he has no second color, or is pure in color.

Mating scenarios:

	COCK	HEN		Young expectations	
	Color 1st + *2nd* +	Color 1st+ 2nd -		Cocks 1st + *2nd* +	Hens
1.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- AR	=	C- AR*(ar)*	H- AR
2.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- AR	=	C- AR*(ar)*, AR*(b/b)*	H- AR, B/B
3.	C- AR *(brn)*	H- AR	=	C- AR*(ar)*, AR*(brn)*	H- AR, BRN
4.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- AY	=	C- AR*(ar)**	H- AR
5.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- AY	=	C- AR*(ar)**, AR*(b/b)**	H- AR, B/B
6.	C- AR *(brn)*	H- AY	=	C- AR*(ar)**, AR*(brn)**	H- AR, BRN
7.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- B/B	=	C- AR*(b/b)*	H- AR
8.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- B/B	=	C- AR*(b/b)*, B/B*(b/b)*	H- AR, B/B
9.	C- AR *(brn)*	H- B/B	=	C- AR*(b/b)*, B/B*(brn)*	H- AR, BRN
10.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- TS	=	C- AR*(b/b)**	H- AR
11.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- TS	=	C- AR*(b/b)**, B/B*(b/b)**	H- AR, B/B
12.	C- AR *(brn)*	H- TS	=	C- AR(b/b)*, B/B*(brn)**	H- AR, BRN
13.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- BRN	=	C- AR*(brn)*	H- AR
14.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- BRN	=	C- AR*(brn)*, B/B*(brn)*	H- AR, B/B
15.	C- AR *(brn)*	H- BRN	=	C- AR*(brn)*, BRN*(brn)*	H- AR, BRN
16.	C- AR *(ar)*	H- Kh	=	C- AR*(brn)**	H- AR
17.	C- AR *(b/b)*	H- Kh	=	C- AR*(brn)**, B/B*(brn)**	H- AR, B/B

18. C- AR *(brn)* H- Kh = C- AR*(brn)**, BRN*(brn)** H- AR, BRN

19. C- AY *(ay)* H- AR = C- AR*(ar)** H- AY
20. C- AY *(ts)* H- AR = C- AR*(ar)**, AR*(b/b)** H- AY, TS
21. C- AY *(kh)* H- AR = C- AR*(ar)**, AR*(brn)** H- AY, Kh

22. C- AY *(ay)* H- AY = C- AY*(ay)* H- AY
23. C- AY *(ts)* H- AY = C- AY*(ay)*, AY*(ts)* H-AY, TS
24. C- AY *(kh)* H- AY = C- AY*(ay)*. AY*(kh)* H- AY, Kh

25 C- AY *(ay)* H- B/B = C- AR*(b/b)** H- AY
26. C- AY *(ts)* H- B/B = C- AR*(b/b)**, B/B*(b/b)** H- AY, TS
27. C- AY *(kh*) H- B/B = C- AR*(b/b)**, B/B*(brn)** H- AY, Kh

28. C- AY *(ay)* H- TS = C- AY*(ts)* H- AY
29. C- AY *(ts)* H- TS = C- AY*(ts)*, TS*(ts)* H- AY, TS
30. C- AY *(kh)* H- TS = C- AY*(ts)*, TS*(kh)* H- AY, Kh

31. C- AY *(ay)* H- BRN = C- AR*(brn)** H- AY
32. C- AY *(ts)* H- BRN = C- AR*(brn)**, B/B*(brn)** H- AY, TS
33. C- AY *(kh)* H- BRN = C- AR*(brn)**, BRN*(brn)** H- AY, Kh

34. C- AY *(ay)* H- Kh = C- AY*(kh)* H- AY
35. C- AY *(ts)* H- Kh = C- AY*(kh)*, TS*(kh)* H- AY, TS
36. C- AY *(kh)* H- Kh = C- AY*(kh)*, Kh*(kh)* H- AY, Kh

37. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- AR = C- AR*(b/b)* H- B/B
38. C- B/B *(brn)* H- AR = C- AR*(b/b)*, AR*(brn)* H- B/B, BRN
39. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- AY = C- AR*(b/b)** H- B/B
40. C- B/B *(brn)* H- AY = C- AR*(b/b)**, AR*(brn)** H- B/B, BRN

41. C- TS *(ts)* H- AR = C- AR*(b/b)** H- TS
42. C- TS *(kh)* H- AR = C- AR*(b/b)**, AR*(brn)** H- TS, Kh

43. C- TS *(ts)* H- AY = C- AY*(ts)* H- TS

44. C- TS *(kh)* H- AY = C- AY*(ts)*, AY*(kh)* H- TS, Kh

45. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- B/B = C- B/B*(b/b)* H- B/B

46. C- B/B *(brn)* H- B/B = C- B/B*(b/b)*, B/B*(brn)* H- B/B, BRN

47. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- TS = C- B/B*(b/b)** H- B/B

48. C- B/B *(brn)* H- TS = C- B/B*(b/b)**, B/B*(brn)** H- B/B, BRN

49. C- TS *(ts)* H- B/B = C- B/B*(b/b)** H- TS

50. C- TS *(kh)* H- B/B = C- B/B*(b/b)**, B/B*(brn)** H- TS, Kh

51. C- TS *(ts)* H- TS = C- TS*(ts)* H- TS

52. C- TS *(kh)* H- TS = C- TS*(ts)*, TS*(kh)* H- TS, Kh

53. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- BRN = C- B/B*(brn)* H- B/B

54. C- B/B *(brn)* H- BRN = C- B/B*(brn)*, BRN*(brn)* H-B/B, BRN

55. C- B/B *(b/b)* H- Kh = C- B/B*(brn)** H- B/B

56. C- B/B *(brn)* H- Kh = C- B/B*(brn)**, BRN*(brn)** H- B/B, BRN

57. C- TS *(ts)* H- BRN = C- B/B*(brn)** H- TS

58. C- TS *(kh)* H- BRN = C- B/B*(brn)**, BRN*(brn)** H- TS, Kh

59. C- TS *(ts)* H- Kh = C- TS*(kh)* H- TS

60. C- TS *(kh)* H- Kh = C- TS*(kh)*, Kh*(kh)* H- TS, Kh

61. C- BRN *(brn)* H- AR = C- AR*(brn)* H- BRN

62. C- BRN *(brn)* H-B/B = C- B/B*(brn)* H- BRN

63. C- BRN *(brn)* H- BRN = C- BRN*(brn)* H- BRN

64. C- BRN *(brn)* H- AY = C- AR*(brn)** H- BRN

65. C- BRN *(brn)* H- TS = C- B/B*(brn)** H- BRN

66. C- BRN *(brn)* H- Kh = C- BRN*(brn)** H- BRN

67. C- Kh *(kh)* H- AR = C- AR*(brn)** H- Kh

68. C- Kh *(kh)* H- B/B = C- B/B*(brn)** H- Kh

69.	C- Kh *(kh)*	H- BRN	=	C- BRN*(brn)**	H- Kh
70.	C- Kh *(kh)*	H- AY	=	C- AY*(kh)*	H- Kh
71.	C- Kh *(kh)*	H- TS	=	C- TS*(kh)*	H- Kh
72.	C- Kh *(kh)*	H- Kh	=	C- Kh*(kh)*	H- Kh

Any time you mate a cock to a hen of a color with higher dominance, it is a sex linked mating and the baby hens will be one of the colors of their father, and the baby cocks will be the color of their mother. It is also a sex linked mating to put a dilute cock on an intense hen, because dilution is recessive to intense. The baby cocks will be intense and all hens will be dilute. This does not apply to patterns; check is always dominate to bar.

Although the color charts above should be accurate in 99% of all pairings, I will say that seven (7) times in 16 years Mother Nature has produced ash red young in my loft out of pairs that were B/B x BRN combinations…….all turned out to be hens…….this is not supposed to happen! It is important to understand that when it comes to Mother Nature and pigeon colors, "there are no absolutes. "