

Budgie Cere Colour and Gender Chart

The cere is the fleshy patch above the beak. It is a good clue, but not proof. Free from ThePerruches.com

Bird	Male	Female
Adult, normal colours (green, blue, grey, violet and most others)	 Bright blue	 Pale blue-white  Tan to brown, often rough when breeding
Young bird (under 3 to 6 months)	 Pink or  light blue in both sexes. Wait before you judge.	
Lutino, albino and lacewing	 Pink to purple-pink	 Pale or tan, white-pink, may turn brown
Recessive pied	 Violet or purple	 Pink-tan to brown
Fallow and some dilutes	 Pink	 Pale tan to brown

A hen's cere through the cycle



Resting: pale blue-white



Getting ready: light tan



Breeding or laying: thick, brown, crusty

Behaviour clues (not proof)

Males: often louder, sing, tap the beak on toys, bob their heads.

Females: often bossier and more territorial, may shred paper, look for nest spots and lay eggs (only hens can lay).

Important

A budgie's sex never changes, but the cere colour does. A male with a brown cere can be a sign of a hormonal or health problem, so ask an avian vet. The only 100% reliable method is a DNA test (feather or eggshell). Read the full guide at theperruches.com.

ThePerruches.com · Cere colours are approximate and can vary by bird and screen or printer.