

Colour ring schemes in use by the Manx Ringing Group on the Isle of Man, British Isles

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)

A single colour ring on the Left leg with the BTO metal ring on the right leg.

The colour ring is **Blue** with a 3 digit inscription in **White**
Combinations used are:

A01-A99, B01-B99, C01-C99 etc.



Our Mute Swan ringing is done in partnership with the North West Swan Study group which study Mute Swans in the North West of England and the Isle of Man. They use other combinations of Blue rings with White digits but our scheme only uses 'Letter, Number, Number' e.g. A87, B39, X25 etc.

All sightings gratefully received – email manxrg@gmail.com

Manx ringing group – www.manxringer.blogspot.com

Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo (carbo)*)

A single colour ring on the left leg and the BTO metal ring on the right leg.

The colour ring is **White** with a 3 digit inscription in **RED**.

The combinations used are a mix of letters and numbers but **all MANX RG Cormorant colour rings start with one of the following letters:**

N, P, R, S, T, U, X, Y or Z.



Note that there is another scheme in Ireland that uses the same White rings with Red digits that use other letters at the start of their rings.

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Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed & Great Black-backed Gulls (*Larus argentatus*, *L. fuscus* & *L. marinus*)

Either...

1 **Black** colour ring with a combination of 4 **Yellow** letters/numbers on the Left leg. BTO metal ring on right leg. Combinations below.



T*TR through to T*TZ
T*UA through to T*UZ
T*VA through to T*VZ
T*WA through to T*WZ
T*XA through to T*XZ
T*YA through to T*YZ
T*ZA through to T*ZZ

* = a number 0 through to 9

Last position uses each letter of the alphabet.

Or...

1 **Orange** colour ring with a combination of 3 digits followed by ':M' (note the colon separating the 'M' from the first 3 digits) on the Left leg. BTO metal ring on the Right leg. Combinations below.



Z00:M - Z99:M
Y00:M - Y99:M
X00:M - X99:M
V00:M - V99:M
T00:M - T99:M
S00:M - S99:M
R00:M - R99:M etc.

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Common Gulls (*Larus Canus*)

1 **WHITE** colour ring with 4 digit code on left leg and BTO metal ring on right leg.

Our 4 digit codes all start with '**2A**' followed by 2 more **letters**.

Our current range of codes is from '**2AAA**' to '**2AXX**'.



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Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)

3 colour rings and the BTO metal ring on each bird allowing individuals to be identified in the field.

2 colour rings on one leg, below tarsal (knee) joint and 1 colour ring above the BTO metal ring on the other leg, again, both rings below the tarsal joint.

Colours used are **Black**, White, **Blue**, **Red**, **Yellow**, **Green**, **Lime** and **Orange**.

Either of the legs used for the metal ring, depending on the combination used.



Chough colour ringing is done in partnership with the **Manx Chough Project** and all sightings passed to Manx RG are forwarded to their project co-ordinator.

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Rock Pipits (*Anthus petrosus*)

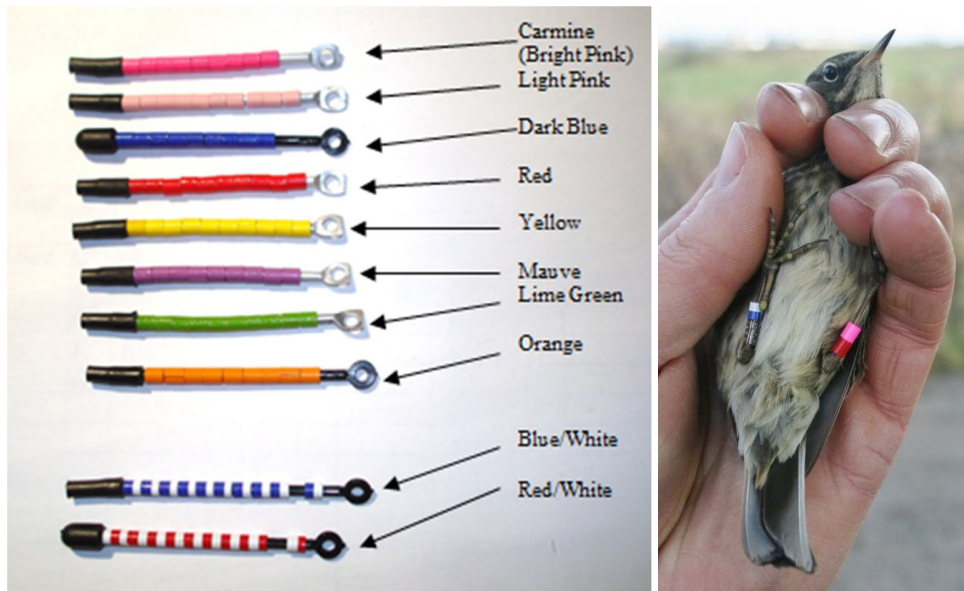
3 colour rings and the BTO metal ring on each bird allowing individuals to be identified in the field.

Left Leg – 2 plain coloured rings.

Right Leg – BTO Metal ring above a bi-coloured striped ring.

The colours used for the plain colour rings are **Carmine**, **Light Pink**, **Blue**, **Red**, **Yellow**, **Mauve**, **Lime** and **Orange** (See picture below).

The bi-colour rings used below the BTO metal ring on the right leg are: **Red/White**, **Blue/White** & **Black/White**.



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Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*)

Twite are colour ringed by the Manx RG as part of the North West Twite Project. This project aims to confirm Wintering and breeding areas of this Red-listed bird species.

2 colour rings on the Left leg
Metal BTO ring on Right Leg



On Manx ringed Twite, there is always a **White** colour ring above a **bi-coloured striped ring**.

The White ring denotes it was ringed in the Isle of Man and the striped ring denotes the year/season it was ringed in (periods are from June to June in the following calendar year).

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