largely tipped with white, forming a conspicuous band; outer tail-feather on each side white, the remainder dark brown, narrowly edged on both margins with white, and slightly tipped with rufous; central feathers brown, broadly margined with rufous; ear-coverts striated with brown and russet red; under surface white, with numerous small striæ from the angle of the mouth; a series of brown and under surface white, with numerous small striæ from the angle of the mouth; a series of brown and russet-coloured spots across the breast; and a series of rufous and brown striæ on the sides and flanks; bill dark brown, except at the base of the under mandible, where it is creamy white; legs, toes, and claws brown.

The female is very similar, but has no rufous on the head, less white across the wings, the markings less decided, and is generally of a darker hue.

The Plate represents the two sexes, of the size of life.