

The Dog Poop Chart

Output is a daily health report written in color and consistency. Most odd colors are a shrug, a few are a call, and one is always an emergency. Color is a clue, not a diagnosis - the pattern and the dog decide.

Color, with honest urgency



Brown, formed - all clear. The healthy baseline; shade varies with diet.



Green - usually a shrug. Grass eating or fast transit; watch. Persistent green without grass = call. (Ate rodent bait? Some are dyed green - emergency.)



Yellow - watch. Food changes, mild upset, mucus tint. Not improving within 24-48 hours, or a pattern = visit.



Orange - watch closely. Diet (carrots, pumpkin) or bile-flow questions; persistent orange, especially with low energy, earns a visit - your vet picks the tests.



Grey, greasy, foul - book a visit. Fat maldigestion territory, classically with weight loss despite appetite.



White - two stories. Moving rice-grain flecks = tapeworms (treat the fleas too, or they return). Chalky-white stool = usually too much bone; persistent = call.



Red - by amount. Thin streaks in a bright adult dog = book a visit (the colitis picture). Quantity, jam-like, or a sick dog = emergency.



Black, tarry, sticky - ALWAYS same-day. Digested blood from the stomach or upper gut. No exceptions, however bright the dog.

Consistency - the 1-to-7 scale vets use



Mucus

The glistening jelly coat - large-intestine irritation, the stress-colitis signature.

Foreign objects

Grass is normal-ish. Fabric, plastic or string = call - and never pull a visible string.

Volume changes

On the same diet, suddenly producing much more can mean absorbing much less.

When the report card earns a visit: any black-tarry stool (same-day, always), red beyond streaks, grey-greasy stools, moving white segments, or any odd color persisting past two or three stools - and any color at all paired with repeated vomiting, appetite loss, lethargy or weight change. Unproductive retching with a swelling belly is the bloat emergency - drive now. Puppies, seniors and tiny breeds: call sooner. Photograph anything odd; vets read stool photos daily, and a picture beats every description.