## Monthly Newsletter



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# Digestion: Should I Be Alarmed by the Color of My Poop? Find Out.

It might not be the most glamorous topic, but your poop's color can tell you a lot about your digestive health. While some color variations are normal and influenced by diet, others might signal an underlying health issue. So, when should you be concerned? Let's break it down.

### What's Considered Normal?

Brown – The most common and healthy color, thanks to bile and digested food.

<u>a</u> Green – Can be caused by eating a lot of leafy greens, food coloring, or rapid digestion where bile doesn't have time to break down completely.

A Yellow – Could be linked to high-fat diets or malabsorption issues like celiac disease. If it's greasy or foul-smelling, consult a doctor.

#### When Should I Be Concerned?

Black – May indicate bleeding in the upper digestive tract, but can also result from iron supplements or certain medications. Seek medical advice if it persists.

Red – Bright red streaks could be from hemorrhoids or minor rectal bleeding, but dark red or maroon stools may signal bleeding in the digestive tract. If unexplained, consult a doctor.

Gray or Pale – Could indicate liver or gallbladder issues, such as bile duct obstruction. This should be checked by a doctor.

Orange – Often caused by beta-carotenerich foods (like carrots or sweet potatoes), but in rare cases, may indicate bile flow problems.

#### When to See a Doctor

If you experience any of the following alongside unusual stool color, seek medical attention:

① Persistent changes lasting more than a few days

riangle Chronic diarrhea or constipation

⚠ Vomiting or extreme fatigue.

#### **Bottom Line**

Your poop color can fluctuate due to diet and digestion speed, but drastic or persistent changes might indicate a health issue. If in doubt, don't ignore it—your gut health matters!  $\psi$ 

Would you like any refinements or additional details? ♥