

Guide to the Rainbow of Poop and Urine Colors (The Scoop on Poop)

Color:

Bloody - Actual red blood seen in stool. Could indicate panleukopenia. Grossly abnormal, must be seen ASAP.

Mucous - yellowish/white/clear slimy substance. Indicates severe bowel irritation. Grossly abnormal and needs immediate care.

Black - True dark black color to stool. Usually indicates bleeding high in the bowel. Severe sign, needs immediate attention.

Brown - Normal color. Be happy!

Orange - Usually indicates way too much bile in stool, can occur with reflux. Seek medical advice.

Yellow - Almost always indicates bacterial imbalance in the bowel. If has diarrhea also, usually related to coccidia. Seek medical advice.

White - Grossly abnormal color, usually indicates, severe bacterial imbalance and severe infection in the bowel. Kitten at risk of dying, needs medical attention, ASAP.

Consistency:

Dry/hard - Abnormal, usually indicates dehydration. Seek care, promptly.

Firm - Normal, be happy.

Formed but soft - Low range of 'normal'. If stools change from firm to soft you should seek medical advice.

Toothpaste - Still has somewhat tubular form but falls apart once touched. Abnormal, needs medication.

Cow-patty - Never formed but thick enough it falls into a 'cow-patty' shape. Abnormal, significant risk and needs immediate attention.

Liquidy - Just fluid that falls out of rectum, thin and may have mucous. Abnormal, animal is at severe risk and must be seen ASAP.

The 'Squirts' - Animal has no control over bowel and watery fluid squirts out of rectum. Grossly abnormal, animal in danger of dying, must be seen immediately!

Water Makes the World Go 'Round - Overview of hydration/Skin turgor:

Immediate snap back - Excellent hydration. Watch however at this stage for over-hydration.

Quick snap but not immediate - Hydrated. Monitor other signs to be sure the kitten is overall(full body) hydrated.

Snap back within one second - Adequate hydration. However, if ANY other signs, this animal is at risk and needs constant care.

Within 1-3 seconds - Dehydrated. Needs immediate attention.

Stands up on own - SEVERE dehydration. DYING. Must be seen immediately!

Urine color:

Red/Dark Orange - Severe sign. Severe at-risk, must be seen immediately.

Dark yellow/almost brown - Extreme dehydration or bilirubin in urine. Either way it's BAD! Needs immediate aggressive treatment.

Intense yellow - Concentrated urine. Animal is not getting enough fluid for total body hydration. Needs immediate care.

Yellow - Mildly concentrated urine. Monitor closely and if ANY other signs, seek care immediately.

Light yellow - Mildly dilute urine. Overall body hydration should be adequate if no kidney disease. With sick/injured or at-risk animals, this is the color we shoot for.

Pale yellow - Dilute urine. Hydration should be excellent if no kidney disease. With any significantly debilitated or severe risk animal, this is the color we shoot for. Be aware however of possible over-hydration and keep urine this color, only if under medical care.

Almost clear - Severely dilute urine. Risk of over-hydration. Urine should only be this dilute if under constant medical supervision