

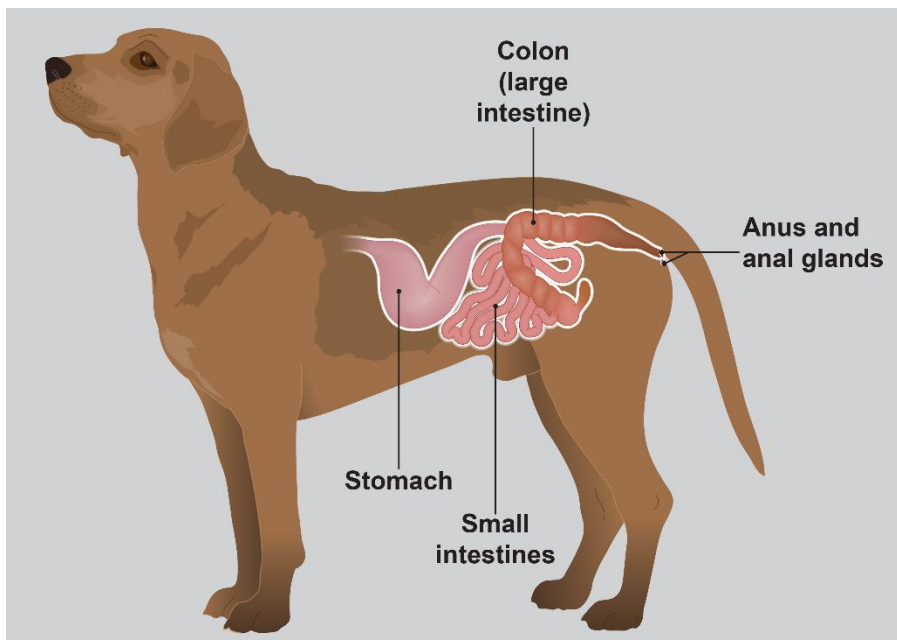
Blood in your dogs stools

Overview

Seeing blood in your dog's stool (poo) can be worrying because most people associate it with serious illness.

It is always something to get checked by your vet but don't panic, there are lots of possible causes ranging from very minor to more serious.

It can be very helpful to take a poo sample or a photograph of your dog's stool to show your vet.



Blood in your dog's poo might be coming from their: stomach, intestines, colon, anus (bottom) or anal glands.

What does blood in a dog's stool look like?

Blood in your dog's poo can range from noticeable bright red streaks to a subtle black tinge throughout the whole poo (see

photographs). You may even see blood dripping from your dog's bottom after they have been for a poo.



Fresh blood in a dog's poo (left)

Black poo - digested blood (right)

Why is there blood in my dog's stools?

Some of the conditions that cause blood in your dog's poo are listed below:

- Parvo (parvovirus) or another virus
- Anal gland problems
- Colitis (inflammation of the large intestine)
- Haemorrhagic gastroenteritis (HGE)
- An upset stomach from eating something they shouldn't have, or something that is toxic
- Worms or another parasite
- Stomach ulcer (this can sometimes be a side effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs)
- Bacterial gut infection (e.g. Salmonella)
- A rectal polyp (a harmless mass sitting just inside the bum)
- Anal furunculosis
- Constipation

- Food allergies
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Gut blockage (foreign body)
- Mass around the anus (bum)
- Mass in the guts
- Bleeding disorders

When to contact your vet

Book an appointment with your vet ASAP if you see blood in your dog's poo. Most of the causes are minor or pass quickly but some are more serious and need immediate veterinary attention, such as parvo and gut blockages.

It can be helpful to collect a sample of the poo show to your vet (or even a photograph if a sample isn't possible).

Take a look at our video: 'HOW TO: Collect a poo sample from your dog' www.pdsa.org.uk/bloodinpoo

You know your dog best. If they don't have the symptoms listed above but you are still concerned it's always best to contact your vet.

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