**Characteristics of Diarrhea (webMD)**

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| **Color** | **Likely Cause** | **Likely Location** |
| Yellowish or greenish | Rapid transit | Small bowel |
| Black, tarry | Upper GI bleeding | Stomach or small bowel |
| Red blood or clots | Lower GI bleeding | Colon clots |
| Pasty, light | Lack of bile | Liver |
| Large, gray, rancid | Inadequate digestion | Small bowel or absorption |

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| **Consistency** | **Likely Cause** | **Likely Location** |
| Watery | Rapid transit | Small bowel |
| Foamy | Bacterial infection | Small bowel |
| Greasy, often with oily hair around the anus | Malabsorption | Small bowel, [pancreas](http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/diabetes-dogs-symptoms-treatments-dietary-management) |
| Glistening or jellylike | Constains mucus | Colon |

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| **Odor** | **Likely Cause** | **Likely Location** |
| Foodlike, or smelling like sour milk | Rapid transit and inadequate digestion or absorption (suggests overfeeding, especially in puppies) | Small bowel |
| Rancid or foul | Inadequate digestion with fermentation | Small bowel, pancreas |

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| **Frequency** | **Likely Cause** | **Likely Location** |
| Several small stools in an hour, with straining | Colitis | Colon |
| Three or four large stools in a day | Inadequate digestion or absorption | Small bowel, pancreas |

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| **Condition of the Dog** | **Likely Cause** | **Likely Location** |
| Weight loss | Inadequate digestion or absorption | Small bowel, pancreas |
| No weight loss, normal appetite | Large bowel disorder | Colon |
| Vomiting | Enteritis | Small bowel, rarely colon |