



Why are there different colors of stains on my teeth and what do they mean?

There are four major different colors of stains that appear on the surface of teeth. These surface stains can usually be removed by good brushing and flossing! Here's what each color means:

STAIN COLOR
YELLOW



Results from poor oral hygiene, which leads to the adherence of dental plaque and foods and this yellow discoloration on tooth surfaces.

STAIN COLOR
BLACK



Can be a metabolic stain caused by bacteria, a result of a metabolic problem with body chemistry, or could be from certain medications such as iron.

STAIN COLOR
GREEN



Usually caused by food debris, metal (copper or nickel), or the retention of Nasmyth's membrane, which is the enamel cuticle that may remain after teeth erupt.

STAIN COLOR
ORANGE



Usually located on anterior teeth and are typically caused by chromogenic, or pigment-producing, bacteria.

Provided by DMG and Shannon Pace Brinker, CDA

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