

## Are Dogs Really Color Blind?

### *Debunking an urban myth*

#### **Pet Health Network Contributors**

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If you think the answer is “yes,” think again! Modern science has answered this age-old question: **Dogs can see color, but not in the same way that we do.** The palette of colors they can see is limited in comparison to ours; it is also less vibrant.

Eyes have “rods” and “cones” to help identify color. Rods tell us how bright or dim something is (black or white) and cones help us identify color. Humans have three kinds of cones, which help detect yellow, violet, and green.

Dogs only have two types of cones, so they see orange, yellow, and green as yellow. Blue-green is seen as white and red looks as though it is brownish-black. While they can see blue, they can’t distinguish shades, especially as the color blue gets darker. [To learn more about how dogs see color, click here.](#)

#### **More Urban Legends**

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[Does a Dry Nose Equal a Sick Dog? >>](#)

[Are All Fertilizers Poisonous? >>](#)

[Do Dogs Sweat? >>](#)

*If you have any questions or concerns, you should always visit or call your veterinarian – they are your best resource to ensure the health and well-being of your pets.*