Guidelines for Determining Your Constitution

Instructions: To determine your constitution it is best to fill out the chart twice. First, base your choices on what is most consistent over a long period of your life (your prakruti), then fill it out a second time responding to how you have been feeling more recently (your vikruti). Sometimes it helps to have a friend ask you the questions and fill in the chart for you, as they may have insight (and impartiality) to offer. After finishing the chart each time, add up the number of marks under vata, pitta and kapha.

This will help you discover your own ratio of doshas in your prakruti and vikruti. Most people will have one dosha predominant, a few will have two doshas approximately equal and even fewer will have all three doshas in equal proportion. For instance, if your vikruti shows more pitta than your prakruti, you will want to follow a pitta-soothing regimen to try and bring your vikruti back into balance with your prakruti. If your prakruti and vikruti seem about the same, then you would choose the regimen of your strongest dosha.

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OBSERVATIONS Body size Body weight	V P K	VATA Slim Low	PITTA Medium Medium	KAPHA Large Overweight
Chin Cheeks Eyes		Thin, angular Wrinkled, sunken Small, sunken, dry, active, black, brown, nervous Uneven shape, deviated septum	Tapering Smooth flat Sharp, bright, gray, green, yellow/red, sensitive to light Long pointed, red nose-tip	Rounded, double Rounded, plump Big, beautiful, blue, calm, loving Short rounded, button nose
Lips Teeth		Dry, cracked, black/brown tinge Stick out, big, roomy, thin gums	Red, inflamed, yellowish Medium, soft, tender gums	Smooth, oily, pale, whitish Healthy, white, strong gums
Skin Hair		Thin, dry, cold, rough, dark Dry, brown, black, knotted, brittle, scarce	Smooth, oily, warm, rosy Straight, oily, blond, gray, red, bald	Thick, oily, cool, white, pale Thick, curly, oily, wavy, luxuriant
Nails		Dry, rough, brittle, break easily	Sharp, flexible, pink, lustrous	Thick, oily, smooth, polished
Neck Chest Belly Belly-button Hips Joints		Thin, tall Flat, sunken Thin, flat, sunken Small, irregular, herniated Slender, thin Cold, cracking	Medium Moderate Moderate Oval, superficial Moderate Moderate	Big, folded Expanded, round Big, pot-bellied Big, deep, round, stretched Heavy, big Large, lubricated
Appetite Digestion Taste Thirst Elimination		Irregular, scanty Irregular, forms gas Sweet, sour, salty Changeable Constipation	Strong, unbearable Quick, causes burning Sweet, bitter, astringent Surplus Loose	Slow but steady Prolonged, forms mucous Bitter, pungent, astringent Sparse Thick, oily, sluggish
Physical Activity Mental Activity		Hyperactive Hyperactive	Moderate Moderate	Slow Dull, slow
Emotions Faith Intellect Recollection		Anxiety, fear, uncertainty Variable Quick but faulty response Recent good, remote poor	Anger, hate, jealousy Extremist Accurate response Distinct	Calm, greedy, attachment Consistent Slow, exact Slow and sustained
Dreams Sleep		Quick, active, many, fearful Scanty, broken up,	Fiery, war, violence Little but sound	Lakes, snow, romantic Deep, prolonged
Speech Financial TOTAL		sleeplessness Rapid, unclear Poor, spends on trifles	Sharp, penetrating Spends money on luxuries	Slow, monotonous Rich, good money preserver