

The excretory system parts



The **ureters** are tubes made of smooth muscle fibers that propel **urine** from the **kidneys** to the urinary **bladder**. In the human adult, the ureters are usually 25-30 cm long and around 3-4 mm in diameter. The ureter is lined by **urothelial cells**, and has an additional smooth muscle layer to assist with peristalsis.

The **urinary bladder** is a hollow and elastic muscular organ that collects and stores **urine** from the kidneys before **urination**. The bladder sits on the pelvic floor. Urine enters the bladder via the **ureters** and exits via the **urethra**. The human bladder will hold between **3 and 5 ml** before the urge to empty occurs, but can hold considerably more.

The **urethra** is a tube that connects the urinary **bladder** to the exterior of the body for the **removal of urine**. In boys, the urethra starts at the lower portion of the bladder and continues through the penis. The **female urethra** is much shorter than one on male. It begins at the bladder neck and it extends downward, through the muscular area of the pelvic floor.

The **kidneys** are a pair of organs on either side of your spine, below your ribs and behind your belly. The kidneys' job is to **filter your blood**. They remove wastes, control the body's fluid balance, **Blood** comes into the kidney, **waste gets removed**, and salt, water, and minerals are adjusted, if needed. Finally, **the filtered blood** goes back into the body. Waste gets turned into **urine**.

Urine is a liquid by-product of metabolism in humans and in many other animals. Urine flows **from the kidneys** through the **ureters** to the **urinary bladder**. **Urination** results in urine being excreted from the body through the urethra.