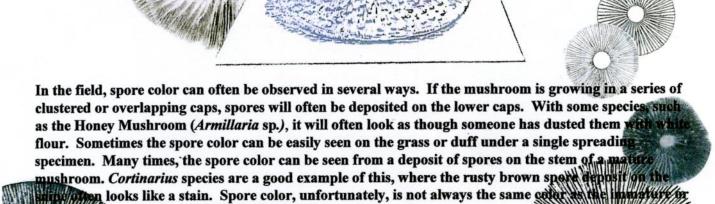
HOW TO MAKE A SPORE PRINT

Remove the stem (stipe) from the mushroom cap and place the cap, gills or pores down, on a pace of clean white paper or a white 3 x 5 card. White (bleached) paper or cardboard is recommended, because some species of mushrooms produce a slightly off-white spore deposit. Thus, it would be difficult to determine the actual color on a grayish or yellowish background. Likewise, use of black paper is not recommended, as it will not characterize off-white or near-white spore prints. Cover the cap with a bown acup, a glass, or even a sheet of plastic to keep stray air currents from your specimen. This will also maintain the moist environment necessary for the production of spores. In a tew hours, a spore deposit may form, depending on its freshness. At times, it may take longer, even overnight. If no spore deposit forms in 12 hours, it is unlikely that one will do so. Either your mushroom dropped all its spores before it was placed on the paper/card, or it is too young and no spores have yet matured. Try another specimen of the same species.

If you make your prints directly onto white file cards or glass/plastic slides, it is easy to keep a permanent file record. You can affirm our print with clear hair spray or cover it with clear, self-adhesive plastic, such as is used for the covers on ID cards. Be sure to keep a dated record of the mushroom source and any other pertine the cards.



Spore priors care also be collected in the field. Just remove the cap from the stalk, place gills/pores down on a care, stip into a waxed paper baggie, place carefully on the bottom of your busket, and examine it when you get home. Since it is fresh, it should have produced a good spore deposit

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we gall so so do NOT rely on gill color.