

DOG & CAT FOOD BUYING GUIDE

We can help you find the perfect pet food to meet your pet's nutritional needs at a price that meets your needs!

What should dogs & cats eat to thrive?

Dogs & cats are carnivores. Their diets are meat-based.

They need water, protein, fat, amino acids, vitamins, & minerals to thrive. High-quality carbs in minimal quantity do provide energy, but carbs are not essential.

Look for food with the words 'complete nutrition' on the label.

Puppies/Kittens




Choose foods that are higher in protein, fat, and nutrients.

Considered a puppy/kitten for the first year of life.

Adult Dogs/Cats

Rotate protein source.



Beef, lamb, fish, chicken, turkey, rabbit, etc.

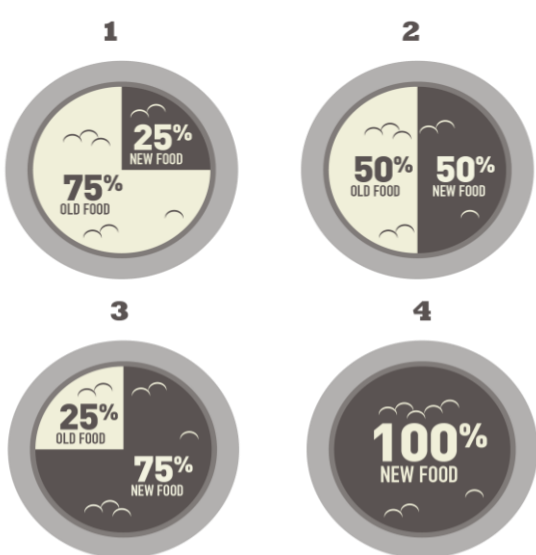
Older Dogs/Cats

For less active pets, choose foods with fewer calories, joint supplements (like glucosamine), and fiber.



'Older' varies by breed, but generally from 8-12+ years of age.

New Food?



Food Types

Type	Advantages	Disadvantages
Dry / Kibble	Economical. Won't spoil. Promotes healthier pet teeth.	Can be an inferior food with fillers & preservatives.
Wet / Canned	Moisture for digestion. Generally more meat protein, fewer carbs and less preservatives.	Pets may experience teeth rotting.
Raw / Frozen	Closest to a natural diet. Rich in nutrients & amino acids like taurine.	More expensive.
Freeze Dried	Like raw/frozen.	More expensive. Less moisture than raw/frozen.

Health Issues?

Allergies
Try foods without common allergens; beef, dairy, wheat, egg chicken, lamb, soy, corn, pork, rabbit, and fish. Try Limited Ingredient Diets (LIDs) & Omega 3

Digestion Issues
Try fish or lamb. Grain/gluten free. 1-4 tablespoons of canned pumpkin. Higher quality food.

Smart Buyer Tips


Read Ingredients

- The first five ingredients generally represent 80% of what is in the package.

INGREDIENTS
Deboned chicken, deboned turkey, atlantic flounder, whole eggs, whole atlantic mackerel, chicken liver, turkey liver, chicken heart, turkey heart, whole atlantic herring, dehydrated chicken, dehydrated turkey, dehydrated mackerel, dehydrated chicken liver, whole dehydrated egg.

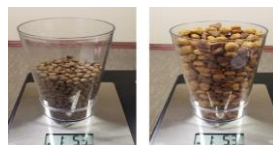
Can't Pronounce It?

- Look it up on the internet.
- Is it a preservative, filler or a needed nutrient?

Lactobacillus 

Serving Size

- Small serving size = dense with healthy calories.
- The container might be more expensive, but it will last longer due to small serving size.



Quality Least Cost

Grains

- Dogs & cats do not require grains. In the wild, they consume only pre-digested plant-based food in their prey.
- Quality pet foods do not list grains in their first few ingredients.
- High-quality grains in low volume provide energy
- Try grain-free if your pet has allergies...



Grains include wheat, rice, oats, corn, barley, sorghum and others.

By-Products?

- Quality pet food lists the meat & organ: Venison Liver.
- When 'by-product' is listed, buyers are left guessing.
- Never by a pet product that lists by-product as the first ingredient.

Humans eat the meat of a chicken, fish, etc.



Cats & dogs eat the entire chicken, fish, etc. Non-meat is the by-product; hearts, kidneys, bones, lungs, etc. .

Our Suggested Brands

These brands align with our core values, providing you the 'Best Quality at the Best Price.'

