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ZimmVet Pet Feeding Recommendations

How do you make the best feeding decisions for your pet when there are 5000 pet food brands in the US and 240 pet food manufacturers? ZimmVet relies on scientifically-proven information to make the best recommendations for your pet.

- Puppies and kittens should be fed puppy and kitten food until 1 year of age.
- All lifestyle foods are formulated to a specific puppy or kitten stage. Therefore, it is not appropriate for other life stages. We recommend feeding to your pet's life stage. The most common food stage for dogs are, Puppy, Adult and Senior (over 7 years old).
- Any puppy that is expected to be over 50 lbs. in weight as an adult weight, should be fed large breed puppy food.
- Do not give food supplements, unless directed by a veterinarian as they can unbalance dog foods, which are specially calibrated for you dog's needs.
- Keep treats under 10% of your pet's total diet.
- Raw diets are not recommended, because just like people who eat raw food, pets can contract parasites and food poisoning from raw food.
- Home cooked diets are meant for short term (less than 1 week) of feeding. Long-term home-cooked diets should be formulated by a veterinarian.
- Mixing different types of food can unbalance the food, so keep mix-ins under 10% of their diet.
- Grain-free diets are not recommended because scientific data has linked grain-free diets to taurine deficiency and heart disease.

We recommend brands of foods owned by well-established pet food manufacturers who have a rigorous research and development process to create quality, consistent food. Every manufacturer has different levels in their quality of foods. We recommend reputable, long established pet food companies because these companies can afford to conduct extensive research and perform long standing food trials. Some of the smaller, less-known companies only do chemical analysis on their foods. A food trial makes sure the food actually performs correctly in a live animal. The more-established, reputable companies provide the highest quality control testing their foods more frequently, so problems are avoided. These well-established companies have veterinary nutritionists and other high-level nutritional specialists on staff.

Veterinary Prescription Diets: Hills Prescription Diets, Royal Canin Veterinary Diets, Purina Veterinary Diets

Veterinary Exclusive Diets: Hills Healthy Advantage Foods

Over-the-Counter Diets: Purina ProPlan, Hills Science Diet, Royal Canin Foods

ZimmVet Pet Feeding Recommendations

All of the foods we recommend are sold through our website ZimmVet.com. Hills food can be purchased from HillsToHome.com or the on-line pet pharmacy ZimmVet.VetsFirstChoice.com. Royal Canin and Purina foods can be purchased through the on-line pet pharmacy ZimmVet.VetsFirstChoice.com.

The pet food stores set the manufacturer suggested retail price (MSRP), retailers are not allowed to sell for lower than the MSRP; therefore, our prices are the same as all the other retailers. In addition, HillsToHome.com offers free shipping and 10% off your first autoship order and 5% off future autoship orders. Food through Zimmvet.VetsFirstChoice.com is shipped for free, if you sign up for autoship. All the foods are guaranteed and can be returned if you are not satisfied. ZimmVet will also give you exact feeding amounts, backed with the support of specialists at each of the food companies to make the best feeding choice for your pet.

Veterinarians have been accused of recommending foods because a profit is made off the foods. Because we sell at MSRP, we don't make any more money than the big box or online stores. We offer the same, convenient online and in-person ordering services, backed by science and knowledge of your pet's dietary needs. The money we make on our pet food sales is very small, but we continue to do it as a service to our customers. At ZimmVet, we want the best nutrition for the lifetime of your pet. Learn more at ZimmVet.com