

# Feeding your Puppy

*Nutrition is the most important aspect of raising a healthy Puppy/dog. Choosing the right foods will make your puppy grow and thrive into the adult he/she was born to be.*

We strongly recommend using the puppy food sample that we supply (Purina ProPlan for Puppies) as this is what the puppy has been raised on and is used to since graduating from milk. A sudden change to a new diet can upset a puppy's stomach, so always make changes gradually, over a 10 day period starting off with more old food (90/10, 80/20 etc.) by adding a little of the new food to the. Each day, add a little more new food and a little less of the old food, until your puppy is completely on the new food. Feed your puppy three times a day until he is six months old. At six months of age, transition to two meals a day. Most puppies start losing interest in the mid-day meal around three months of age. At one year of age and above we recommend feeding two meals a day for the rest of their life.

## ***DON'T LEAVE FOOD OUT (Free feed)***

This will delay your house training as you will never know when or if he/she has eaten and therefore needs to eliminate.

Best way to feed is to put the bowl of food down and let puppy eat. After 10-15 minutes if they have lost interest whether they have finished all the food or not simply remove the bowl.

The puppy/dog will quickly learn the pattern of eating when the food is provided and you will know when it ate, how much and at what time, so house training is made simpler. Another benefit to this is that no food is left to get stale or go bad and no unwanted guests, such as rodents(if outdoors) or ants (indoors) are attracted. If a puppy/dog doesn't eat at one meal time, he can catch up at the next feeding opportunity without any harm being done.

## ***The benefits of feeding this way are:***

- Puppy does not hesitate to eat, so food is always fresh.
- Puppy learns to eat without becoming a "Finicky" slow eater.
- Puppy does not eat any old/stale or contaminated food.
- Knowing immediately when/if a dog is sick or not feeling well.
- It creates less waste. Food that is left out will often be wasted
- Knowing when and how much a puppies eat, at each meal and per day.
- Scavenger's and insects do not get the opportunity of getting into the food bowls
- It helps develop a schedule for house training. When you know when the food goes into your puppy, you will have a good idea when it will need to relieve itself. This is vital in the house training process. A puppy who grazes all day on his food will be eliminating all day, unpredictably.
- It helps establish you as the pack leader. By "telling" your dog when and where to eat, you are taking charge and developing your position as the pack leader.
- It prevents fat and obese dogs. Dogs that eat at-will often become fat or even obese.
- You can use a piece of kibble for a treat when training in between meals.

Age & Weight at Maturity	1-1/2 to 3 Months	3 to 5 Months	5 to 7 Months	7 Mos. to 1 Year	1 to 2 Years
Toy 3-12 lbs.	1/4 to 1/2 cup	1/2 to 1 cup	1 to 1-1/4 cups	1 to 1-1/4 cups	*
CAVALIERS 13-20 lbs.	1/3 to 1 cup	1 to 1-2/3 cups	1-2/3 to 2 cups	1-2/3 to 2 cups	*
GOLDEN RETRIEVERS 21-50 lbs.	1-1/4 to 3-2/3 cups	2-1/4 to 4-1/3 cups	3 to 4-1/2 cups	3 to 4-1/4 cups	*
Large 51-100 lbs.	1-3/4 to 4-1/4 cups	3-1/4 to 5-1/3 cups	4-1/2 to 6-1/3 cups	4-1/4 to 6-1/3 cups	4-1/4 to 5-1/3 cups
Extra Large 51-100 lbs. and over	4-1/4 to 5-1/4 cups	5-1/3 to 7 cups	6-1/3 to 8-3/4 cups	6-1/3 to 10-2/3 cups	5-1/3 to 8-1/2 cups

## ***Helpful Tips:***

- No matter how many dogs you have, you should always be the pack leader, the one in charge, the boss. It keeps food fresh. By providing food and then removing what is not eaten, you are keeping your supply of dog food fresh. Food that is left out will go stale. No one wants to eat stale food, not even a dog. It's the only way to feed multiple dogs at once. If you have more than one dog, scheduling regular meal times means you will be right there watching (or standing close by) your dog's eat. You will know they are eating their own food out of their own bowl. This is important if your dogs eat different amounts or even different foods. This cannot be accomplished by leaving food out all the time, unless you keep your dogs separated.
- By measuring your food according to the package directions, you are ensuring your dog stays fit and trim, which makes a healthier, happier dog.
- You can use a piece of kibble for a treat when training. No need to spend the extra time and money purchasing or making treats. If you want to do a training session before a meal, use the dog's actual food. The puppy/dog will still get their allotted meal, and will have had fun at the same time.