

## STRUGGLING WITH AN OVERWEIGHT PET?

Each extra pound of excess weight can contribute to serious health problems for your pet! Your 10 lb cat has 1 lb to lose? Your 20 lb dog has 2 lbs to lose? Not such a big deal? Well that weight is the same as a 150 lb person needing to lose 15lbs. Those few pounds over time can decease your pets longevity & quality of life! Love your pet with HUGS not helpings.

DID YOU KNOW we can make our pets sick with food?
By allowing our pets to carry that extra few pounds we increase
their risk to develop:
* HEART DISEASE
* HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
* BREATHING PROBLEMS
* DIABETES
* SKIN DISEASE
* ARTHRITIS
* LIVER DISEASE
* CONSTIPATION
* PANCREATITIS

## **OBESITY PREVENTION**

1. DO NOT FEED AD LIB - always measure the correct amount of food for your pet. Do you know your pet's calorie requirement?

2. WATCH TREATS - many treats are very high in calories, sodium and other ingredients your pet does not need. Did you know a large milk bone has over 300 kcal - this is the same a 1 cup of most dog food. Feed your dog 3 milk bones and 2 meals - you are actually giving the equivalent calorie count of 5 meals! Remember everything which passes your pet's lips adds to his/her calorie count!

3. ACTIVITY LEVEL - Do you have an indoor cat? Then after his/her growing years go to Weight Control. Do you have a breed that is a fat burner? or a fat storer? such as a lab or beagle. Some diets (R/D) will target the pet's genes to help turn on the fat burning genes!

4. BODY SCORE - Always monitor your pet's weight & body score; it is easier to deal with a little weight gain than to have to try and help an obese pet.