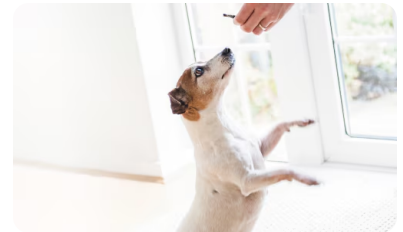


Treats & Supplements

Puppies and Adult Dogs: Feeding Treats



Feeding treats or snacks is a way for the pet owner and pet to interact and bond. Using treats for puppy training purposes is also common, but excessive treating can potentially lead to the pet becoming overweight.

Key Messages

- Treats must be counted as part of the daily caloric intake, and should be limited to <10% of the pet's total daily caloric intake.
- Edible chew toys, rawhides, dental chews, etc. may contribute a surprising number of calories — check the label for feeding guidelines.
- Use small sized treats for training. Cat food kibbles are a good option as they are small in size, and they provide essential nutrients but a limited number of calories per piece.
- When feeding a dry food, individual kibbles from the weighed daily amount can be used as treats, whilst managing calorie intake.

Additional Resources

Linder, D. E. (2017). Diets for each life stage. *Cliniciansbrief.com*

Eirmann, L. A. (2014, March 27-29). The challenge of providing feeding recommendations for puppies after neutering. *Proceedings of the Purina Companion Animal Nutrition Summit: Nutrition for life*. Austin, TX, United States, 25–31.

The Purina Institute aims to help put nutrition at the forefront of pet health discussions by providing user-friendly, science-based information that helps pets live longer, healthier lives.

