

FAIR HERO KENNEL

THEY SAY THE LADY IS FAIR. TIS A TRUTH, I CAN BEAR THEM WITNESS.

PRODUCERS OF QUALITY

DOGUES DE BORDEAUX & FRENCH BULLDOGS

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RAW FEEDING GUIDE

We hope that you find the information provided useful. It is however just a guide. We recommend you do your own research and talk to your meat supplier to establish the best diet for your pup.

A Raw Diet MUST Have Calcium

Dogs, and especially puppies, need a solid source of minerals, especially calcium and phosphorus.

If you feed your dog bones, you'll mostly get the minerals right. The most important ones to worry about are calcium and phosphorus. Both dogs and growing puppies need enough calcium in their diet and they need some phosphorus to go with it because these minerals work closely together. Bones contain both calcium and phosphorus.

On the other hand, meat is high in phosphorus and too low in calcium. An all-meat diet will certainly cause bone and nervous system issues in your dog and severe bone issues in growing puppies. So you need bone in the diet ...

To get enough calcium and keep a healthy balance of minerals, your dog's raw diet needs to contain about 12% to 15% bone. To make things simpler, this means about 1/3 of his diet should be nice meaty bones. Here are some good choices for meaty bones:

- Chicken wings, necks, legs or thighs
- Turkey necks (other bones are large)
- Beef tail bones (great for larger dogs)
- Lamb or goat necks or ribs

You can also feed your dog whole animals such as whole fish, whole rabbit and whole poultry and these contain just the right amount of bone. Raw eggs with the shell on also contain the right ratio of calcium and phosphorus too.

Many raw supplier's minces contain bone so be sure to ask!

Organs Are the Multi-Vitamins

Organs are the nutrient-rich parts of the animal and without them, your dog could be missing some important vitamins.

Overall, you'll want to feed anywhere from 10% to 30% organ meats and this depends on how much you can get. If you can only find liver, just feed 10% organs. But if you're lucky and you can find kidney, spleen, pancreas, brain and other delicious, nutritious organs, then feed them as a third of your dog's diet. But never feed that much liver ... limit it to 10% because it's really high in vitamin A and can give your dog some messy diarrhea if you give too much. The same applies to any organ ... no one organ should be more than 5% to 10% of your dog's diet but if you have a few different ones, they can be 1/3 of your dog's total meals

Muscle Meat is the Foundation

Once you get your meaty bones and organs in place, the rest of your dog's diet should be nice lean meats (half to a third of his total food, depending on how much organ meat you can get your hands on). These are the protein-rich component of your dog's diet and he needs proteins to build strong tissues, as well as the hormones and enzymes he needs to survive and thrive.

Don't Stress About Fruit & Veg

Should you add fruits and vegetables to your dog's raw diet? The short answer is it's really up to you. If you follow the guidelines given your dog will get a nicely balanced raw diet with enough vitamins and minerals to do well.

However fruits and vegetables carry some unique benefits your dog can't get from animal products. And in the wild, your dog's ancestors ate a reasonable amount of grasses and berries ... and I like to think that they ate them for a reason (because animals are very good at sourcing out the foods their bodies need).

What benefits do fruits and vegetables offer that can't be found in meat?

Prebiotics (fiber) are indigestible plant fibers that feed important little bugs that live in your dog's gut (called probiotics).

Chlorophyll is the green pigment in plants that makes your dog's cells healthy detoxifies his liver and digestive system. It can also protect against cancer.

Carotenoids are important antioxidants that protect your dog from aging and disease. Carotenoids are found in yellow, orange and red colored fruits and vegetables like squash, carrots, papaya, cantaloupe.

Lycopene is another powerful antioxidant that can play a role in preventing and slowing cancer. Lycopene gives many vegetables their red color and it's found in tomatoes, carrots, red cabbage, watermelon.

Lutein is another antioxidant that's known to protect the eyes, skin and heart. It's found in dark leafy greens and in yellow plants, including kale, broccoli, oranges and papaya.

Flavonoids or bioflavonoids can regulate cell signaling and have antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer properties. In general, the more colorful the plant food, the higher it is in bioflavonoids.

Variety Counts

Just like us, dogs need a variety of wholesome foods to provide them with a wide range of nutrients ... not to mention the fact that it's boring to eat the same foods every day!

Feed a wide variety of different foods, including different sources of meat ... and don't forget to feed some of the "weird and icky things" such as chicken, duck or turkey feet, beef trachea, tails, lung, testicles and pizzles. Parts like beef trachea and poultry feet are loaded with natural chondroitin and glucosamine, which help to build healthy joints and they're reasonably priced ... so adding the icky parts is a win-win.

Feed Fish Once Weekly

Instead of fish oil, you can feed whole fish (like sardines, smelts, herring, mackerel) once or twice a week or you can add a little fish to several meals. At the end of the week, you'll want whole fish to be about 5% of your dog's total diet and this will balance out his fats.

Balance Over Time

One common concern with raw feeding is that it's not "complete and balanced." This isn't true for two reasons.

First, nobody knows what complete and balanced is, so it's difficult to make this claim.

Second, balance can occur over time ... every meal doesn't need to be completely balanced as long as your dog's nutritional needs are met over the course of a few days or weeks.

You don't calculate the exact percentages of protein and carbohydrates or the exact amount of vitamins and minerals in each of your family's meals, and you don't have to do it with your dog's meals either. So, you don't have to follow these rules for every meal.

Coconut Oil

6 Health Benefits To Giving Your Dog Coconut Oil

Here are some ways giving your dog coconut oil regularly can support her health.

1. Skin

- Clears up skin conditions such as eczema, flea allergies, contact dermatitis and itchy skin
- Reduces allergic reactions and improves skin health
- Makes coats sleek and glossy
- Prevents and treats yeast and fungal infections, including candida
- Disinfects cuts and promotes wound healing
- Applied topically, promotes the healing of cuts, wounds, hot spots, dry skin and hair, bites and stings
- Protects against fleas, ticks and mites
- Soothes and heals dry cracked pads and elbow calluses

2. Digestive System

- Improves digestion and nutrient absorption
- Aids healing of digestive disorders like inflammatory bowel syndrome and colitis
- Reduces or eliminates bad breath in dogs
- Expels or kills parasites

3. Immune System

Contains powerful antibacterial, antiviral, and anti-fungal agents that prevent infection and disease. May reduce risk of cancer.

4. Endocrine/Metabolic System

- Regulates and balances insulin and can help prevent or control diabetes
- Promotes normal thyroid function
- Increases energy and helps reduce weight

5. Musculoskeletal System

- Helps build strong bones
- Eases inflammation and can help with arthritis discomfort

6. Brain, Eyes, Ears and Mouth

- Promotes good nerve and brain function and prevents dementia
- Helps clear up ear and eye infections (let it melt and then use as eye drops, and also use topically in the ears)
- Improves oral health and can be used to clean teeth

How Much Coconut Oil Should You Give Your Dog?

As a daily supplement, work up to about 1 tsp per 10 lbs of body weight per day. Start with ¼ of this amount to avoid loose stool from the extra oil going through your dog's digestive system, then increase gradually until you get to the recommended dose.

Note: Because of the essential fatty acids in Omega-3 oils, your dog will still need some Omega-3 oil as well as coconut oil. It's a good idea to rotate coconut oil on alternate days or at different meals with your choice of Omega-3 oil, so that your dog gets the benefits of both types of oils.

For therapeutic or medicinal purposes, you may need to double the above dosage – but again, work up gradually until your dog's system adapts to the extra oil in her diet. You might want to consult your holistic vet about the optimal dose for your dog's size and health condition.

Some dogs love licking coconut oil off the spoon (or your hands!) but others prefer it mixed into food. Adding it to food can also help prevent digestive upset when you first start giving coconut oil to your dog.