



Template: Sustainable Dog Food Comparison Checklist

Generated: 12/9/2025

Based on Article: "A Comparative Analysis of Sustainable Dog Food Brands: What to Look For"

Website: <https://therenownedhound.com>

A practical checklist for evaluating the sustainability of dog food brands based on key measurable factors.

Checklist Items:

- ☐ **1. Check Ingredient Transparency**
Review the labels for clear sourcing information, avoiding vague terms. Look for named farms or regions of origin.
Reference Section: How Sustainable Dog Food Works (Mechanism Explanation)
- ☐ **2. Evaluate Carbon Intensity**
Find out the pounds of CO₂e emitted per kilogram of the finished dog food, aiming for lower values.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **3. Assess Water Footprint**
Check the liters of water used per kilogram of protein ingredient. Foods with a lower water footprint are preferable.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **4. Verify Land Use Requirement**
Look at the hectares required per metric ton of ingredient produced. Seek brands that utilize less land.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **5. Check for Ingredient Traceability**
Ensure that a high percentage of ingredients can be traced to their origin and production methods.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **6. Review Byproduct Utilization**
Investigate what share of inputs are upcycled or derived from low-value byproducts, aiming for higher percentages.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **7. Look for Third-Party Certifications**
Check for the presence of verifiable sustainability certifications or audit reports that support claims.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?
- ☐ **8. Examine Packaging Sustainability**
Determine the percentage of packaging that is recyclable or compostable to evaluate end-of-life impact.
Reference Section: What Is 'Sustainable Dog Food'?

☐ **9. Consider Social Responsibility Practices**

Research the brand's labor practices and community engagement, looking for publicly available sustainability reports.

Reference Section: How Sustainable Dog Food Works (Mechanism Explanation)

☐ **10. Evaluate Nutritional Trade-Offs**

Analyze the protein choices and their impact on the environment, considering the overall nutrient delivery for your dog.

Reference Section: How Sustainable Dog Food Works (Mechanism Explanation)