



Template: Dog Food Selection Checklist

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Based on Article: "Choosing the Right Dog Food for Specific Breeds and Life Stages"

Website: <https://therenownedhound.com>

A systematic approach to choosing the right dog food based on breed and life stage.

Checklist Items:

- ☐ **1. Assess Dog's Breed and Life Stage**
Classify your dog by breed size and temperament, and identify their current life stage (puppy, adult, senior) to determine specific nutritional needs.
Reference Section: How to Assess Your Dog's Needs (Breed + Life Stage)
- ☐ **2. Measure Weight and Body Condition Score**
Weigh your dog using a scale and record their body condition score on a 1-9 scale. Check breed standards for ideal weight ranges.
Reference Section: How to Assess Your Dog's Needs (Breed + Life Stage)
- ☐ **3. Calculate Daily Caloric Needs**
Combine your dog's weight, body condition score, and activity level to estimate caloric needs. Match this with appropriate dog food formulations.
Reference Section: How to Assess Your Dog's Needs (Breed + Life Stage)
- ☐ **4. Choose Formula Based on Life Stage**
Select a specific formula that matches your dog's life stage (higher protein for puppies, joint support for seniors), ensuring it meets breed-specific health considerations.
Reference Section: Step-by-Step Process to Choose the Right Formula
- ☐ **5. Transition Gradually to New Food**
Introduce the new dog food gradually over 7 days. Monitor the dog's acceptance and appetite. If any health issues arise, consult a veterinarian.
Reference Section: Step-by-Step Process to Choose the Right Formula
- ☐ **6. Monitor Health and Adjust Accordingly**
Keep a log of your dog's weight, stool quality, energy levels, and overall health during the transition phase and make adjustments based on these observations.
Reference Section: Trial Feeding, Monitoring, and Long-Term Adjustments
- ☐ **7. Consult Veterinarian for Special Needs**
If your dog has unique health concerns or dietary restrictions, seek advice from a veterinarian to choose the best dietary plan.
Reference Section: Matching Special Health Needs and Allergies

8. Review and Adapt Diet Regularly

Reassess the food suitability regularly based on your dog's changing health, age, and needs, making necessary adjustments to their diet.

Reference Section: Trial Feeding, Monitoring, and Long-Term Adjustments