



Template: Dog Feeding Checklist

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Based on Article: "Feeding Your Dog Right"

A practical checklist for dog owners to ensure proper nutrition and feeding habits.

Checklist Items:

- ☐ **1. Assess Body Condition**
Use a 9-point scale to evaluate your dog's body condition and adjust calories accordingly to maintain optimal weight.
Reference Section: How Can Diet Impact Your Dog's Health?
- ☐ **2. Choose Quality Diet**
Select dog foods with named animal proteins and ensure they have AAFCO nutritional adequacy statements to ensure balanced nutrition.
Reference Section: How Can Diet Impact Your Dog's Health?
- ☐ **3. Establish Feeding Frequency**
Feed adult dogs twice daily at approximately 8-12 hour intervals to stabilize metabolism and reduce gastrointestinal issues.
Reference Section: How Can Diet Impact Your Dog's Health?
- ☐ **4. Control Portions by Weight**
Measure food portions based on your dog's weight and activity level rather than relying on package instructions for more effective feeding.
Reference Section: Feeding Your Dog Right
- ☐ **5. Monitor Nutritional Outcomes**
Keep track of your dog's health signs such as coat quality and energy levels; consult a vet if you notice signs of under- or over-nutrition.
Reference Section: Nutritional outcomes and common clinical signs
- ☐ **6. Limit Treats and Extras**
Restrict the number of treats given to prevent over-nutrition, and ensure they're healthy and proportionate to daily caloric intake.
Reference Section: How Can Diet Impact Your Dog's Health?
- ☐ **7. Familiarize with Food Types**
Understand the pros and cons of different dog food formats (dry, wet, fresh, raw) to choose the best option for your dog's needs and lifestyle.
Reference Section: Types of Dog Food: Pros and Cons

☐ **8. Transition Gradually to New Foods**

If switching foods, do so gradually over 7-10 days to avoid gastrointestinal upset, introducing new meals slowly.

Reference Section: Feeding Your Dog Right

☐ **9. Consult a Veterinarian**

Discuss your dog's specific dietary needs based on their age, health conditions, or activity level with a veterinarian to ensure proper nutrition.

Reference Section: How Can Diet Impact Your Dog's Health?