

# Puppy and Kitten Diet Recommendations

## New Food Transition

When feeding your pet new food, introduce it slowly. If you feed too much too soon, your pet could suffer from food refusal, stomach upset, diarrhea, vomiting, excess gas or constipation. The best method for switching food is to gradually mix an increasing amount of the new product with the old product over a period of time (5 to 7 days) until your pet is receiving only the new product. If at any time your pet starts having loose stools or appears constipated, slow the rate at which you are switching it over.



## Recommended Puppy/Kitten Foods

**Royal Canin Puppy/Kitten**

**Hill's Science Diet Growth Puppy/Kitten**

**Purina ProPlan Puppy/Kitten**

*\*\*These are recommended diets due to the AAFCO statement on the label that the food is complete and balanced and has passed feeding trials\*\**

## Toy Breeds

Toy breed puppies have their own special needs. Because of their small size, they may be susceptible to a potentially fatal condition known as hypoglycemia. This can happen because if they don't eat often enough or if they use a lot of energy from playing or being stressed (going from one environment to another) or chilled, their body can deplete its stores of glucose. The puppy becomes abnormally sleepy, weak and uncoordinated, to the point he may not even eat when offered food. If he doesn't eat, the condition can progress to the point that the puppy has seizures, loses consciousness and dies. Toy puppies are especially at risk up to 12 weeks of age, and some can be susceptible even as adults due to other health conditions.

## To avoid Hypoglycemia:

1. **Feed toy puppies frequently.** A young (under 4 months) toy puppy should be fed about 3-4 times a day. When the dog can't be fed as often as suggested, he should be kept warm and quiet, so he doesn't expend a lot of energy and be given **Nutri-cal** (Vitamin Mineral supplement) in between meals. To avoid a roller-coaster effect with blood sugar levels, be very careful and consistent with how much and when you feed your puppy and stay on a schedule.
2. **Restrict playtime.** Do not let your toy breed puppy run all over the house having free roam all day. Play time should be limited to 20 minutes and then put your puppy in his or her crate or playpen for a rest period.

## In case of Hypoglycemic episode:

1. **Give Nutri-cal or honey/karo syrup to help boost sugar levels**
2. **Immediately go to your Veterinarian**

# Body Condition Score (BCS) for Dogs



- Ribs, spine and hip bones are easily visible (coat may interfere with observation)
- Fat can not be seen or felt under the skin
- Obvious loss of muscle mass
- Extreme waist and abdominal tuck

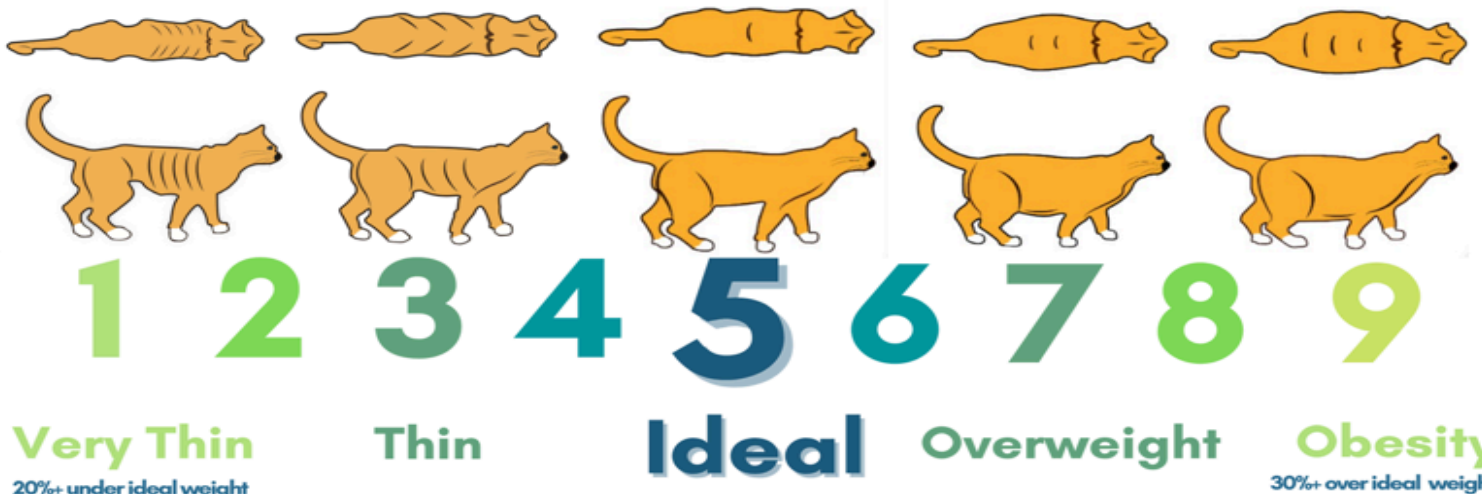
- Ribs, spine and hip bones are easy to feel and visible
- Fat can not be seen or felt under the skin, especially around the ribs and lower back
- Obvious waist and abdominal tuck
- Some muscle loss

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are easily felt and may be visible (coat may interfere with visibility)
- A waist and abdominal tuck are seen when viewed from above and side
- Fat can be felt around ribs, spine and hip bones

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are not visible and difficult to feel
- Excess fat is felt around ribs, spine and hip bones
- Waist and abdominal tuck are minimal or absent

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are difficult to feel under a thick layer of fat
- Waist and abdomen distended when viewed from above and side
- Prominent fat deposits over lower spine, neck and chest

# Body Condition Score (BCS) for Cats



- Ribs, spine and hip bones are visible (coat may interfere with visibility)
- Fat can not be seen or felt under the skin
- Obvious loss of muscle mass

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are visible (coat may interfere with visibility)
- Fat can not be seen or felt under the skin
- Obvious loss of muscle mass

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are easily felt and may be visible (coat may interfere with visibility)
- A waist and abdominal tuck are seen when viewed from above and side
- Fat can be felt around ribs, spine and hip bones

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are not visible and difficult to feel
- Excess fat is felt around ribs, spine and hip bones
- Waist and abdominal tuck are minimal or absent

- Ribs, spine and hip bones are difficult to feel under a thick layer of fat
- Waist and abdomen distended when viewed from above and side
- Prominent fat deposits over lower spine, neck and chest