

Pet Food Update

The upside of all the pet food recalls is that more and more people are taking a much closer look at what they are feeding their cherished companions.

The simplicity of feeding grain-based kibbles has taken over but they are neither natural nor particularly healthful although certainly some are far better than others. I consider the Dynamite Dog Diet to be far and away the finest kibble available today.

However, NO kibble comes close to a good, raw, meat-based omnivorous diet for your dog or a virtually all-meat carnivorous diet for your cat (cats are obligate carnivores). It's just that simple. Those are the diets these animals evolved upon and those are the diets they should continue to receive. People are so skewed in their thinking that one checker at the store actually was aghast when John explained much of the meat he was purchasing was for our dogs. She actually exclaimed: "Can dogs eat meat?"

All raw diets should contain organ meats and bones in addition to the muscle meat and dog diets should contain some vegetables and fruits also. While the purest meats would be free range followed by organic and with human-grade last, only you can determine what is best in your particular situation.

In order to present you with different possibilities, I have prepared a chart, which you'll find on the flip side of this paper, of those raw diets (most frozen, some freeze-dried) I have located with doing web searches. Personally I prefer those formulas without supplementation thus leaving room for Dynamite Showdown for dogs or Purrrformance for cats. However, choices will depend on local availability and your checkbook.

Please let me know what you think of the chart, any changes I can make, and if you find some other sources.

And yes, home cooking might be appropriate for you but it's not nearly so good as a raw diet for your pet. However, if you'd like, you might want to consider these proportions as generally suggested by Martin Goldstein, DVM:

DOGS: 1/2 meats including some organ meats, 1/4 cooked brown rice or other gluten-free grain or sweet potato/white potato mix, & 1/4 steamed organic green/yellow veggies

CATS: 3/4 organic meats including some organ meats, 1/4 @ steamed steamed veggies

RAW PET FOODS CHART

NAME	CONTACT	Free Range Additive Free Human Grade Bones/Viscera	FROZEN Bulk Patties	FreezeDried Canned Kibble	DOG/CAT	PRODUCE INCL.	SUPPLEMENTS INCL	GRAIN-FREE
Aunt Jeni	www.auntjeni.com	HG	1# packs		D, C	Y	N	Y
Dr. Whisnant's	www.americandogtreats.com	FR, BV	B			N	N	Y
FarMore	www.farmoredogfood.com	HG, BV	B			Y	N	Some
Honest Kitchen	www.thehonestkitchen.com	HG		FD	D, C	Y	N	Some
Healthy Paws	www.tryhealthypaws.com	HG, V	B & P		D, C	Y		
Natural Balance	www.naturalbalanceinc.com	HG, V	B & P	C & rolls, K	D, C	Y	Y	Some
Nature's Variety	www.naturesvariety.com	AF, BV	B	FD, C, K	D, C	Y	N	Some
NorthStar Bison	www.northstarbison.com	FR	Bone, organs, meats (& poultry) for human consumption					
Northwest Naturals	www.nw-naturals.net	AF, BV	B & P		D, C	Y	Y	Y
Oma's Pride	www.omaspride.com	AF, BV	B & P		D, C	Y	N	Y
Primal Pet Foods	www.primalpetfoods.com	AF, BV	B & P		D, C	Y	Y	Y
Raw Advantage	www.rawadvantagepetfood.com	AF	B		D, C	Y	Y	some
Steve's Real Food	www.stevesrealfood.com	AF	P	FD	D, C	Y	Y	Y
US Wellness Meats	www.grasslandbeef.com	FR	Everything for human consumption but some "pet patties"					