



Dog Nutrition



Why Nutrition Matters

Proper nutrition is the foundation of your dog's health. A balanced diet supports:

- *Healthy skin and coat*
- *Strong bones and teeth*
- *A robust immune system*
- *Energy and vitality*
- *Healthy weight management*



Core Nutritional Needs for Dogs

Dogs require a diet that includes:

- **Proteins:** Build and repair muscles and tissues.
- **Fats:** Provide energy and support skin and coat health.
- **Carbohydrates:** Supply quick energy and fiber.
- **Vitamins & Minerals:** Essential for growth, metabolism, and body function.
- **Water:** The most important nutrient of all.



Choosing the Right Diet

Every dog is unique! The right food depends on factors like:

- **Age:** Puppy, adult, senior
- **Size & Breed:** Small breeds vs. large breeds
- **Lifestyle:** Active working dog vs. indoor companion
- **Health Conditions:** Allergies, kidney disease, diabetes, obesity



Feeding Guidelines

- **Follow a consistent schedule** – most adult dogs thrive on 2 meals/day.
- **Measure portions** to avoid overfeeding.
- **Limit treats** – no more than 10% of daily calories.
- **Avoid harmful foods** such as chocolate, grapes/raisins, onions, garlic, xylitol, and cooked bones.



Special Diets & Medical Nutrition

Veterinary prescription diets may be recommended for dogs with:

- *Allergies or food sensitivities*
- *Gastrointestinal issues*
- *Kidney or liver disease*
- *Weight management needs*
- *Dental health support*



Tips for Pet Owners

- *Always introduce new foods gradually.*
- *Fresh water should be available at all times.*
- *Consult your veterinarian before changing your dog's diet.*
- *Monitor weight and body condition regularly.*



We're Here to Help!

*At **Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic**, our veterinary team can help you choose the best nutrition plan for your dog. Whether it's selecting high-quality food, managing weight, or tailoring a diet for medical needs—we're here to guide you every step of the way.*

 *Call us today to schedule a nutrition consultation!*