



## Puppy Feeding Information

### Your Puppy's Current Feeding Schedule:

Type of Food:	
Times per Day:	
How much per feeding:	
Other Instructions:	

### Recommended Feeding Schedule as Puppy Grows

Although puppies require a higher caloric intake, it is best to feed them small meals multiple times a day until they become adults. This eases digestion and helps pups keep their energy levels steady throughout the day. Avoid overfeeding, as feeding them all their food in one meal can result in bloating, slower digestion, and general discomfort.

From age 8 - 12 weeks: Feed your puppy 4 times per day. It is best to continue soaking or softening the puppy's food at this age because they eat so quickly.

From age 3 - 6 months: Feed your puppy 3 times per day. We feel it still helps to soften the puppy's food at this age, but the puppy can definitely start transitioning to hard food during this time.

From ages 6 - 12 months: If you are able, continue to feed the puppy 3 times per day for their normal feeding schedule going forward. If this is not convenient, the puppy can be transitioned to feeding 2 times per day.

## **How much should you feed your puppy each feeding?**

This is a hard question for us to answer as it depends much on each individual puppy. Most puppy foods will have a recommended feed amount printed on the bag. Following a standard feeding chart is very helpful, but with the larger breed puppies, the new owner will need to watch and be aware of increased food needs as the puppy rapidly grows.

Watch how much and how quickly your puppy finishes their food each time they eat. We have found that this breed mix will not overeat, but leave food if they are getting too much. At the same time, puppies normally eat very quickly, but if you feel your puppy is finishing quickly and looking for more food, it might be time to gradually increase how much you are feeding them. Large breed puppies will probably need a food increase weekly until they are 6 - 9 months of age.

## **What type of food should you feed your puppy?**

We definitely recommend a large breed puppy food. We also recommend a grain free or a “No Corn, Wheat or Soy” food with a high protein content.

There are many supplements that can be fed to growing large breed puppies. These supplements are meant to help with bone, ligament and joint health, all of which are important for the larger breed dogs. Look for a supplement with glucosamine. There are also high quality fish oil supplements that are easy to add to food each feeding.

Spending a bit more on high quality puppy food for a minimum of the first year of your puppy’s life can help prevent future health problems. Clean water and regular, moderate exercise are also important for your growing puppy.

Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions you may have about feeding your new puppy.

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