



UNDERSTANDING DOG BEHAVIOR

Diet

The saying “You are what you eat” can be applied to dogs, too - a dog is what he eats. We place great emphasis on diet because what your dog eats affects his health, behavior, and response to training. We have seen links between certain ingredients in dog food and behavior problems in dogs. Year after year, generation after generation, dog food manufacturers have used ingredients and fillers that we now know can cause allergies. When a dog is eating something on a regular basis that doesn't agree with his system, the symptoms often manifest themselves as behavior issues such as hyperactivity, inattentiveness, shyness, even aggression. Manufacturers use certain, addictive ingredients so that if you change the food your dog won't eat the new stuff (and therefore they sell more of their particular food, etc.). Treats are formulated with the same ingredients; also ensuring the dog will become addicted. By limiting, reducing, or avoiding all of these ingredients, your dog will be a happier, healthier dog.

The ingredients to avoid are: **CORN, WHEAT, SOY, SUGAR, BY-PRODUCT, and DYES**

Roots and fruits

Adding fresh, cooked, or frozen vegetables and/or fruits to your dog's diet stabilizes the digestive system and helps strengthen the gut so any changes in his diet (bugs, grass, other food) will have a lesser or no effect on your dog. A dog should be able to eat, digest, and pass anything organic he considers food. By feeding the same basic kibble, year after year, generation after generation, we have weakened the dog's digestive and immune systems. Change in your dog's diet is good.

Try adding the following fruits and veggies to your dog's diet: **broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, green beans, peas, potatoes, tomatoes, berries, watermelon, apple (without seeds), cantaloupe, bananas.** (DO NOT feed your dog apple seeds, chocolate, grapes, onions, raisins, walnuts or macadamia nuts as these can be toxic.)

How often to feed?

A dog in the wild feeds on a gorge-and-starve system; eating a large meal and then going for days until the next feeding is normal. It will eat until it is full and any leftovers may be stored for later consumption. The idea of feeding a dog three times a day is a human one. If your dog is eating too frequently, it can reduce his response to training, especially when using food as the reward. Feeding your dog at a set time each day often produces a demanding dog (think of the dog that wanders into the kitchen every evening at 6 p.m. expecting to be fed). Leaving your dog's food bowl down all day and night, always full of food, allows your dog to control feedings. So when is the right time to feed Fido?

First, always feed your dog **AFTER** you have fed yourself (even if you have to pretend to eat or eat something small). Second, vary the time of when your dog eats so as to keep him guessing and wanting to respond to you (there are exceptions to this such as if you have a dog that is new in your home and is very timid and fearful).

	Solid Gold	Wellness	Natural Balance	California Natural	Innova	Prairie
Tomlinson's	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
Bark 'n Purr	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
Gallery of Pets	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
DogBoy's		♥		♥	♥	♥
River and Reefs	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
Just For Pets	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥



Tomlinson's

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 (512) 445-4549
 908 E. 49 ½ - Central Austin,
 (512) 452-1560
 202 Walton Way Ste 196 - Cedar Park,
 (512) 260-8566
 3300 Bee Cave Rd. in Westbank Market -
 West Lake
 (512) 306-1121
www.tomlinsons.com

Bark 'n Purr Pet Center

4604 Burnet Road, Central Austin
 (512) 452-3883
www.barknpurr.com

Gallery of Pets

11689 Research Blvd. (at Duval)
 (512) 345-8920
www.galleryofpets.com

DogBoy's Dog Ranch

2615 Crystal Bend Drive -
 Pflugerville
 (512) 251-7600
www.dogboys.com

River and Reefs Pet Center

1323 S Congress Ave
 (512) 445-5101

Just For Pets

3616 Far West Blvd
 Austin, TX 78731
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