

# Basic Canine Nutrition - Student Notes

*Directions:*

Fill in the blanks.

## 1. Nutrients

- Are chemically ingested by \_\_\_\_\_
- Are needed for survival
- Include six essential nutrients needed by canines:
  - proteins
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - fats
  - vitamins
  - minerals
  - water

## 2. Nutrients

- Are fats, carbohydrates and water composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen molecules
- Are \_\_\_\_\_ made of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen
- Are minerals found in \_\_\_\_\_
- Are vitamins necessary for various life processes

## 3. Proteins

- Are chemicals made from \_\_\_\_\_ acids
  - some amino acids can be made by a canine's body
  - others must be supplied in their food
- Form enzymes metabolizing food into energy
- Form hormones guiding many bodily functions
- Are high in feeds for pups and working dogs
- Can cause \_\_\_\_\_ disease in excessive amounts
- Can cause weight loss and a poor hair-coat in deficient amounts

## 4. Carbohydrates

- Make up approximately \_\_\_\_\_% of a balanced food for canines
- Supply \_\_\_\_\_ to the body
- Should come from a healthy nutritional source
  - should be clean and of high nutritional quality

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## 5. Fats

- Increase the \_\_\_\_\_ of food
- Are needed for the absorption of certain vitamins
- Are a source of essential fatty acids
- Provide 25% to 50% of a dog's energy
- Can lead to \_\_\_\_\_ skin, a lusterless coat and skin infection in deficient supply
- Can be supplemented by adding soy or corn oil to a dog's food

## 6. Minerals

- Are essential for:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ formation
  - muscle metabolism
  - fluid balance
  - nervous system function
- Are divided into major and \_\_\_\_\_ concentrations
- Can lead to diseases if given in deficient or toxic levels

## 7. Vitamins

- Are required in \_\_\_\_\_ amounts
- Serve as enzymes
- Regulate:
  - nutrient digestion
  - nerve and muscle function
  - energy utilization
- Supplementation is usually necessary
- Can be classified as \_\_\_\_\_ soluble or fat soluble
  - water soluble- excreted from the body if unused
  - fat soluble- stored in fatty tissue

## 8. Water

- Is a component of all foods
- Is required in \_\_\_\_\_ amounts than all other nutrients
- Loss of 10% results in serious disease
- Loss of 15% results in \_\_\_\_\_

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## 9. Types of Dog Food

- Supply nutrients dogs can convert into \_\_\_\_\_, use for body repair and growth
- Are usually classified as:
  - dry- contains as little as 5% water (nuggets)
  - semi-moist- contains about 30% water (nuggets or canned)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - may contain as much as 80% water (canned)

## 10. Nuggets

- Are prepared in a mixing pressure cooker
- Are coated with a liquid fat, carbohydrate, milk product or “\_\_\_\_\_” for extra palatability and calories
  - “digest” is partially degraded animal tissue, such as fish liver or beef lungs
- Are usually consumed with more drinking water
- Will usually have less dental disease than when eating canned food
- Are more \_\_\_\_\_ than canned food

## 11. Canned

- Includes rice, oats and wheat, which provide \_\_\_\_\_
- Includes other ingredients:
  - yeast
  - mineral substances
  - bone and grain meals
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - pork fat
  - sunflower oil
  - corn oil

## 12. Food Labels

- Must include specific information, broken down into:
  - Principal Display Panel
  - information \_\_\_\_\_

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## 13. Principal Display Panel

- Includes:
  - brand name
  - \_\_\_\_\_ statement (describes content of food)
  - designation of what class the food is (growth, maintenance, etc.) and the category of dog it is for (pup, adult, senior, etc.)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ of contents

## 14. Informational Panels

- Includes:
  - guaranteed analysis- lists the minimum levels of crude protein and fat and the maximum levels of water and fiber
  - \_\_\_\_\_ list- must be listed in decreasing order of weight
  - nutritional adequacy claim- identifies the specific life stage the food is intended for
  - \_\_\_\_\_ instructions

## 15. Dog Food Rules

- Keep the customer from being “\_\_\_\_\_” into thinking dog food contains more than what it does
- Includes the “95% Rule:”
  - if the food says “\_\_\_\_\_ Dog Food,” 95% of the product must contain chicken
- Includes the “25% Rule:”
  - ingredients named on the label must make up at least 25% of the product, but less than 95% when there is a qualifying descriptor term
- Includes the “3% Rule:”
  - a product containing 3% of an ingredient may be labeled “Dog Food With . . .”

## 16. Things to Remember

- When purchasing and storing dog food:
  - make sure the label has an Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) guarantee
  - check \_\_\_\_\_ date for freshness
  - store dry food in a \_\_\_\_\_ container

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## 17. Dog Food Certification

- Can be done by
  - meeting \_\_\_\_\_ standards for content
  - passing \_\_\_\_\_ tests

## 18. Dog Diets

- Are specific quantities of food to feed dogs depending on the dog's size, weather conditions and daily work habits
  - a normal dog will eat \_\_\_\_\_ of its body weight
  - a hard working dog will eat 5% to 7.5% of its body weight
  - a full grown dog should have only \_\_\_\_\_ meals a day

## 19. Reproductive Diets

- While a female is in gestation, the quantity of food should be increased by **10%**
- After whelping and during heavy lactation, females will consume two to three times their maintenance level, or 5% to \_\_\_\_\_% of their body weight

## 20. Feeding Pups

- Young pups will begin walking and nibbling solid food at about \_\_\_\_\_ weeks of age
- Food should be \_\_\_\_\_ due to the sensitivity of a pup's teeth
- To start, feed a pup four times per day, then three and finally twice a day
- This will help the pup become accustomed to the twice daily feedings it will have as an adult

## 21. Special Diets

- Are needed to treat a wide variety of \_\_\_\_\_ conditions
- Consult with a veterinarian before beginning
- Can offer:
  - pH control
  - weight control
  - heart maintenance
  - \_\_\_\_\_ needs
  - allergy maintenance
  - bland diet
  - kidney maintenance

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## 22. When Changing Feeds

- Mix a \_\_\_\_\_ of the new food with 3/4 of the old food, and increase the new food more each day
- Watch for changes in:
  - skin
  - energy level
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - stool and discharges
  - appetite and body weight