



## FEEDING GUIDE - CATS



There's an ongoing debate about which diet is the best for cats. As an owner you might want to consult your vet and conduct your own research before making a decision. You need to take into consideration the cat's age, size & activity levels. If your cat has a medical condition they will probably benefit from a specialised diet.

**Whatever you decide, the food you give your cat should be of good quality and nutritionally balanced**



### So many questions!

What is the best diet for cats?- Should it be dry only, wet only, raw meat especially created for pets (not human grade meat) only or a mixture of these? How much should I feed my cat? What kind of bowl should I put the food in? How many times a day should I feed them? Where should I buy the food? Are the more expensive foods better?

The following links provide information:

<https://www.hillspet.com/cat-care/nutrition-feeding/how-to-feed-a-cat?lightboxfired=true#>

<https://www.walkervillevet.com.au/blog/is-it-ok-to-give-a-cat-only-dry-food/>

<https://cat-world.com/feeding-cats-raw-meat/>

<https://www.walkervillevet.com.au/blog/best-dog-and-cat-foods/>

<https://www.petmd.com/cat/nutrition/wet-cat-food-vs-dry-cat-food-which-better>

<https://www.untamedcatfood.com/blogs/nutrition/is-dry-food-bad-for-cats>



### Tips

- In general a combination of high quality dry food and a little wet food is healthier, exposes the cat to different textures and prevents boredom
- We advise against using cheaper food it's not nutritionally balanced & your cat's hunger will not be satisfied. Choose high quality dry food which will deliver the best nutrition.
- Never feed human grade raw meat or left overs as it doesn't contain essential nutrients that cats need
- Don't give your cat cow's milk as it's hard for them to digest
- Food is much cheaper if you buy online and in bulk
- Your cat should have a measured amount of food appropriate to their age, and activity levels. Keep an eye on their weight & consult with your vet to check if you should adjust amounts or types of food
- If possible feed your cat smaller amounts several times a day. Kittens especially have tiny stomachs
- Cats like routine so if you can, feed at the same times every day. If they don't eat everything within about half an hour throw away the leftovers as the food will have lost its aroma & won't taste as good
- If your cat eats food very quickly try using a puzzle feeder or scatter their dry food to slow them down
- Give treats only as a reward when your cat does something for you. Treats should be counted as part of their cat's daily food ration and if you give them indiscriminately they can cause your cat to gain weight which can lead to health issues. Different cats like different treats— so try experimenting to find out what your cat likes – those you can buy or small pieces of cheese, BBQ chicken or even olives?



### Whilst at SAFE your cat's diet has been

Kittens under 6 mths	1/8 cup high quality kitten dry food 3x per day + 2 teaspoons wet kitten food 2x per day
Kittens 6mths to 1 yr	1/6 cup high quality kitten dry food 2x per day + 1 tablespoon of wet kitten food 1x per day
Cats over 1 year	1/6 cup high quality adult dry food 2x per day + 1 tablespoon wet adult food 1x per day

**\*When your kitten turns 1 yr old transition them to adult food by gradually mixing more of it in with their kitten food**