



All Round Good Hounds

Puppy Feeding Notes

Puppies need to be fed at a minimum twice a day due to the amount of development and growing that they are doing within the first 2 years of life. It is recommended that during this time you feed a quality diet ensuring that if you are using kibble, dry food or equivalent you are using a puppy specific food. The puppy specific food is designed to have the extra nutrients that your puppy needs to grow and develop. The amount of food your puppy eats will increase as its energy levels increase so you will need to monitor your puppies weight on a weekly basis to ensure he or she is getting enough food. This can be done by your socialisation visit to your vet by using their scales or making sure in your manual handling you can only just feel the puppies ribs at most. If you run your finger across the back of your hand when you make a fist that is the ideal weight for dogs and for puppies they can have more coverage due to the amount they burn off. If you can feel more than this then you need to increase your puppies food. What is recommended on the packing is a guide only and some puppies will require more and some less. The best way is to monitor and increase/decrease as necessary until you get the right balance.

A raw meat diet for your puppy is a great, easy and natural way to feed your puppy. Chicken has a high protein content to it and also is high in fat so can be a great meat to feed your puppy. Depending on your puppies size feeding chicken necks or wings raw can be a great way to introduce your puppy to bones. If you do feed any type of bones this always should be done supervised, especially with puppies they can inhale their food so typically do the same with bones. If you are going to feed chicken drumsticks this ideally should be done from about 8-12 months as this bone is a harder bone so teeth development needs to be considered. Any type of beef or marrow type bones should not be fed to your dog until they are at least 2 years of age to ensure we are not damaging their teeth. Any weight bearing bones of larger animals should only be fed minimally again to ensure we don't unnecessarily wear down their teeth. It must be remembered that any bones given to dogs must be raw and not cooked to help prevent splintering of the bones and causing internal problems with your dog. Cooked bones does include bones that have been left out in the sun, any bones that are left outside for more than a day are considered cooked as they bake in the sun and can cause the bone to splinter if the dog chews on it again. So should be removed and placed in the bin. Fully consumable bones like chicken carcass, ribs, wings, necks etc are the best way to ensure that there is nothing left over to guard or cause problems with multi dog households.

If you are feeding your puppy rawhide chews then once again you need to ensure it is age appropriate for your puppy and also size appropriate to help prevent choking. Pigs ears, etc are a great way to allow your puppy to exercise their jaws and teeth during their teething phase.