

Dog Food Grading Worksheet

How does your brand rate?

(Reproduced from Hobbs list.)

Start with a grade of 100:

- 1) For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points
- 2) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat meal or fat) reference, subtract 10 points
- 3) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points
- 4) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points
- 5) If the same grain ingredient is used two or more times in the first five ingredients (i.e. "ground brown rice", "brewer's rice", "rice flour" are all the same grain), subtract 5 points
- 6) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than two meats in the top three ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colors, flavors, preservatives, or added sweeteners, subtract 3 points
- 8) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top five ingredients, subtract 2 more points
- 10) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points
- 11) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points
- 12) If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points
- 13) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to beef), subtract 1 point
- 15) If it contains salt, subtract 1 point

Extra Credit:

- 1) If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points
- 2) If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points
- 3) If the food is baked not extruded, add 5 points
- 4) If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
- 5) If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
- 6) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points
- 7) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
- 8) If the food contains barley, add 2 points
- 9) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds), add 2 points
- 10) If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
- 11) If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
- 12) For every different specific animal protein source (other than the first one, count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source, but "chicken" and "" as 2 different sources), add 1 point
- 13) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
- 14) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free, add 1 point

94-100+ = A

86-93 = B

78-85 = C

70-77 = D

69 = F

Some examples of foods already scored are on the next page, you may be surprised where your food rates!!

Visit www.DogFoodAnalysis.com and www.whole-dog-journal.com to learn more

Find Your Food:

(please pay attention to Brand AND type)

RATING: A+

The Blue Buffalo Co: Blue Wilderness
Horizon: Legacy Adult
Innova Evo: Chicken
Orijen: Adult, Six Fish, Senior
Petcurean Go Natural: Grain Free Endurance
Taste of the Wild: High Prairie, Wetlands
Wellness: Core, Core Ocean

RATING: A

Acana: Grasslands, Pacifica, Prairie
Before Grain by Merrick: Buffalo, Chicken, Salmon
Fromm: Four Star Varieties
Petcurean Go Natural: Chicken, Wild Salmon
Innova: Adult
Merrick: Turducken, Wilderness Blend
Nature's Variety
Pinnacle: Peak Protein
Solid Gold: Barking at the Moon, Hundchen Flocken
Taste of the Wild: Pacific Stream
Timberwolf
Wellness: Super 5 Mix

RATING: B

Artemis: Holistic, AGARx Immune Support
Blue Buffalo: Chicken, Buffalo, Fish, Lamb and SP
The Blue Buffalo Co: Blue Organics
Blue Seal Feeds by Nature: Organics, Natural Active
California Natural: Chicken, Lamb, Herring and SP
Eagle Pack Holistic Select: Fish, Chicken, Lamb, Duck
Flint River Ranch: Lamb, Premium Fish
Fromm: Gold
Innova: Large Breed Adult
Merrick: Campfire Trout, Cowboy Cookout, Grammy's Pot Pie
Natural Balance
Pinnacle: Allergen Free Duck and Potatoe, Chicken and Oats
Solid Gold: Hund-N-Flocken, Just A Wee Bit, Millenia, Wolfking
Wellness: Fish and Sweet Potatoe, Simple Solutions, SuperMix Senior

RATING: C

Authority: Harvest Baked
AvoDerm: Natural Brown Rice, Oatmeal and Chicken,
Back to Basics: Chicken
Blue Buffalo: Senior, Lite
California Natural: Low Fat Varieties
Canidae: Platinum
Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul: Senior, Large Breed, Light
Dog Whisperer
Drs Foster and Smith: Adult Chicken, Lamb, Senior, Puppy
Fromm: Classic
Innova: Low Fat, Senior
Kirkland's Signature: Chicken, Lamb
Natural Balance: Lamb, Reduced Calorie, Vegetarian
Nutro: Ultra Holistic

RATING: D

AKC: Natural Pet Food
Authority: Adult, Puppy, Lite
AvoDerm Natural: Beef, Vegetarian
Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul: Light
Hill's Prescription Diets
Nature's Best: All Varieties
Nutro Max: All Varieties
Nutro Natural: All Varieties
Pro Plan: Selects, Sensitive Skin
Purina Vet Diets
Rachel Ray: Nutrish
Royal Canin: Brrred Specific, Vet RX Diets

RATING: F

Alpo
Beneful
Bil Jac
Eukanuba
Goodlife Recipe
Hill's Science Diet
Iams: Proactive, Prescription Diet
Kibbles N Bits
Ol Roy
Pedigree
Purina: Dog Chow, Puppy Chow, Fit & Trim, ONE, Natural Blends, Veterinary Diets

****This is a GENERAL rating system only! Individual dogs may do better on a lower rated food. Decide what's best for YOUR dog****