

## How to grade your dog's food

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 2 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 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points
- 8) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top 5 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 is not allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog is not 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 <70 = F

Dog Food scores:

Alpo Prime Cuts / Score 81 C  
Artemis Large/Medium Breed Puppy / Score 114 A+  
Authority Harvest Baked / Score 116 A+  
Authority Harvest Baked Less Active / Score 93 B  
Beowulf Back to Basics / Score 101 A+  
Bil-Jac Select / Score 68 F  
Blackwood 3000 Lamb and Rice / Score 83 C

Blue Buffalo Chicken and Rice / Score 106 A+  
Burns Chicken and Brown Rice / Score 107 A+  
Canidae / Score 112 A+  
Chicken Soup Senior / Score 115 A+  
Diamond Maintenance / Score 64 F  
Diamond Lamb Meal & Rice / Score 92 B  
Diamond Large Breed 60+ Formula / Score 99 A  
Diamond Performance / Score 85 C  
Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Ultra Premium / Score 122 A+  
Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Venison and Brown Rice / Score 106 A+  
Dick Van Patten's Duck and Potato / Score 106 A+  
EaglePack Holistic / Score 102 A+  
Eukanuba Adult / Score 81 C  
Eukanuba Puppy / Score 79 C  
Flint River Senior / Score 101 A+  
Foundations / Score 106 A+  
Hund-n-Flocken Adult Dog (lamb) by Solid Gold / Score 93 B  
Iams Lamb Meal & Rice Formula Premium / Score 73 D  
Innova Dog / Score 114 A+  
Innova Evo / Score 114 A+  
Innova Large Breed Puppy / Score 122 A+  
Kirkland Signature Chicken, Rice, and Vegetables / Score 110 A+  
Member's Mark Chicken and Rice / Score 84 C  
Merrick Wilderness Blend / Score 127 A+  
Nature's Recipe / Score 100 A  
Nature's Recipe Healthy Skin Venison and Rice / Score 116 A+  
Nature's Variety Raw Instinct / Score 122 A+  
Nutra Nuggets Super Premium Lamb Meal and Rice / Score 81 C  
Nutrience Junior Medium Breed Puppy / Score 101 A+  
Nutrisource Lamb and Rice / Score 87 B  
Nutro Max Adult / Score 93 B  
Nutro Natural Choice Lamb and Rice / Score 98 A  
Nutro Natural Choice Large Breed Puppy / Score 87 B  
Nutro Natural Choice Puppy Wheat Free / Score 86 B  
Nutro Natural Choice Senior / Score 95 A  
Nutro Ultra Adult / Score 104 A+  
Pet Gold Adult with Lamb & Rice / Score 23 F  
Premium Edge Chicken, Rice and Vegetables Adult Dry / Score 109 A+  
Pro Nature Puppy / Score 80 C  
Pro Plan Sensitive Stomach / Score 94 A  
Purina Beneful / Score 17 F  
Purina Dog / Score 62 F  
Purina Come-n-Get It / Score 16 F  
Purina One Large Breed Puppy / Score 62 F  
Royal Canin Boxer / Score 103 A+  
Royal Canin Bulldog / Score 100 A+  
Royal Canin Natural Blend Adult / Score 106 A+  
Science Diet Advanced Protein Senior 7+ / Score 63 F  
Science Diet for Large Breed Puppies / Score 69 F  
Sensible Choice Chicken and Rice / Score 97 A  
Solid Gold / Score 99 A  
Summit / Score 99 A  
Timberwolf Organics Wild & Natural Dry / Score 120 A+  
Wellness Super5 Mix Chicken / Score 110 A+  
Wolfking Adult Dog (bison) by Solid Gold / Score 97 A