

Transitioning your dog to raw

You can switch your dog straight over to a raw diet. A gradual change is not necessary – it is advisable not to mix raw and kibble as it can cause stomach upsets. Feed your pet their last non-raw meal in the evening then raw for breakfast the following day.

Transitioning an adult dog

You will feed your dog 2-3% of their adult weight. For example, a dog weighing 20kg will require between 400g and 600g a day. Some dogs may need to eat slightly less and some will need a little bit more – factors such as exercise and energy levels will have an impact on how much your dog requires. A good starting point is 2.5% of their weight, adjusted up or down in due course if required.

It is advised to feed your dog a simple diet of minced green tripe for a week when you make the switch to enable your dog's digestive system to adjust to their new diet.

After a week of plain tripe – either lamb or beef, you can begin to add in new proteins weekly until you have achieved a variety of proteins for your dog. A raw fed dog ideally needs a minimum of 5 different proteins to ensure a balanced and nutritious diet. By using this method of switching, you will also be able to identify any possible food allergies and eliminate them from your pet's diet. The easiest way to raw feed is to feed Completes – a balanced meal containing the correct ratios of meat, bone and offal that your dog requires. Just defrost and serve the correct weight – easy!

The ratios you will be aiming for are: **80% meat, 10% bone, 10% offal (of which 5% must be liver)**

For example, if your dog requires 1kg of food per day, 800g would be meat, 100g would be bone, 50g would be liver and 50g would be other offal (such as kidney or spleen)

Some people choose to begin their dog on Completes, some prefer to ease their dogs into a raw diet slowly. Below is a sample plan to transition your pet slowly:

Sample feeding guide for transition – adult dogs

Week 1 – plain minced lamb tripe – we recommend Paleo Ridge Lamb Tripe or Landywoods Minced Lamb Tripe

Week 2 – add chicken, we recommend Henley Raw Lamb Tripe & Chicken Mince or Landywoods Chicken & Bone (these are both 20% bone - as we want 10% bone, we can balance this by diluting with some minced tripe – see percentage guide below)

Week 3 – add beef, we recommend Henley Raw Beef Mince or Nutriment Boneless Beef.

Week 4 – add duck, Landywoods Chicken & Duck can be added to your pet's diet (again, this is 20% bone so we will need to dilute with boneless beef or tripe.

Week 5 – after a gentle introduction to raw, we can now introduce offal to your dog’s diet. Completes are the easiest way to do this – try Benyfit Natural Chicken Meat Feast 80*10*10, Paleo Ridge Lamb Tripe & Chicken Complete or Henley Raw Ox (Beef) & Chicken Complete.

Week 6 – add a new protein of your choice every week from this point until your pet has a nice variety to choose. You could now try turkey, venison, lamb, rabbit, goat, pheasant, horse or kangaroo. Pork can be a little rich for some dogs so it may be a good idea to introduce this one slowly.

Bone Mince Percentage Guide

Some minces contain more than 10% bone. You will need to dilute these with boneless mince. Below is a guide on how to do this. If your dog’s poo is too dry and crumbly, add more boneless to dilute. If your dog’s poo is loose, add a little less boneless to firm up.

<u>Bone % in mince</u>	<u>Bone Mince</u>	<u>Boneless Mince</u>
15	2/3	1/3
20	1/2	1/2
25	2/5	3/5
30	1/3	2/3
40	1/4	3/4
50	1/5	4/5

For example, if you are using a mince containing 25% bone and your pet needs 100g of bone per day you will need to dilute the mince with 3/5 boneless mince. In this case, you would need 40g mince with bone and 60g of boneless mince.

Puppy Feeding Guide

<u>Age In Months</u>	<u>% Of Body Weight To Feed</u>
1 – 2	10
2 – 3	9

3 – 4	8
4 – 6	6
6 – 9	4
9 – 12	3
12 +	2-3 (feed as adult)

Transitioning a puppy – sample feeding guide

You can either start your puppy on a Complete aimed at young dogs – we recommend Nutriment Puppy Formula and Benyfit Natural Perfect Puppy – or you can use the guide below to help transition him slowly before moving him onto Completes.

Days 1 -3: green tripe only

Days 4-6: ¼ chicken mince with bone and ¾ green tripe

Days 7-9: ¼ chicken mince with bone and ¾ boneless beef

Days 10-12: ¼ duck mince with bone with ¾ boneless beef

At this point, start adding in offal, building up to 10%. You can now also add new proteins every 3 days at this point. Don't forget to add eggs – 2 or 3 per week – and fresh oily fish. Oily fish needs to be introduced slowly to allow your dog to get used to it – otherwise you may see it again!

You are now also able to switch your puppy to Completes – the easiest way to feed your pup.