



Blue Springs

Animal Hospital & Pet Resort

"It's All About Caring"



FEEDING YOUR CAT FOR OPTIMAL HEALTH

The food that your cat eats has a significant impact on your cat's health and well being. A **high quality diet will provide excellent nutrition and keep your pet in optimal health for a long, happy life.** We recommend iVet™ professional formulas which is only available through Veterinary Hospitals. Other high quality foods include Science Diet® and Eukanuba™ are available through pet retailers and Iams® is available through your local grocer or discount store. Lower quality or “off brands” cat foods often claim to contain the same ingredients, but many of them are inferior in quality and nutrition.

Kittens should be fed the kitten formulation for the first year of life. Healthy adult cats should be fed the adult maintenance formula after the age of one year. If your cat becomes overweight on the maintenance formula, switch to the “light” formulation and limit your cat to 1 cup (8 ounce measuring cup) of food per day.

Dry, crunchy food is preferred to canned food. The canned foods are as nutritionally complete as the dry, but they tend to stick to the teeth causing quicker tartar formation, dental disease, and bad breath. Unless otherwise directed by the doctor, the best choice is to feed your cat exclusively dry food, avoiding canned foods completely.

Cats should not be allowed to eat dog food or “people” food (including milk, which can cause diarrhea). Neither dog nor “people” foods are nutritionally adequate for a cat, and significant health problems can result. Even “snacking” on these can cause problems, as it results in a decreased appetite for their nutritionally complete cat food.

Cat treats such as “pounce” can be given in very small quantities, 1-2 per day, if desired.

If you have questions concerning your cat's diet, please call the hospital and we will be happy to discuss nutrition with you.

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