How Many Times a Day Should I Feed My Dog?

This is a question we often get asked. While it's important to bear in mind that every dog is unique and may require different amounts of food, we have designed a general guide to give you an idea. Feed your prized pooch the healthy way with Burns.

One in 10 dog owners admit to feeding their dogs more than the recommended guidelines and 47% ignore feeding guidelines altogether.

Puppies



Puppies tend to require 3-4 meals a day from weaning age to support their growth.

Puppies will need to be fed small meals as their bowels are not yet strong enough to cope with large amounts of food.

Adult Dogs



Most adult dogs are fed once or twice a day.

Large breeds usually need at least two meals per day as one large meal is difficult to digest and can cause bloating.

Working dogs will need to be fed more than once a day to keep their energy levels up and to control their blood sugar levels.

Fussy dogs who aren't food motivated are generally fine to consume one meal per day.

Sensitive dogs that suffer with digestive upset or disease conditions are better suited to smaller, more frequent meals as they are easier to digest.

Senior Dogs



Elderly dogs are usually less active requiring less.

Solution? Reduce the amount of food you feed them or switch to a lower calorie food.

Very senior dogs may refuse to eat much, possibly because their sense of smell and taste has declined with age. Feed them small frequent meals.

Does your senior dog have a **large appetite?** Offer a diet high in fibre to satisfy hunger. Also try feeding multiple small meals so that your dog doesn't have to wait for their next snack.



Beware Bottomless

Beware of topping up your dog's bowl throughout the day, allowing them to eat as much as he or she likes. This can cause **digestive upset, fussiness** and **weight gain.**

It's always best to adopt a **mealtime routine**. Refer to our feeding guidelines for an idea of how much food to feed each day in terms of weight and be sure to portion mealtimes accordingly.



Get advanced advice

Dog nutritionists can provide professional support with pet weight control and diet related health issues.



