

How Much Wet and Dry Food to Feed Cats

Trying to decide between wet or dry cat food? Get the pros and cons of each to figure out which food satisfies your favorite feline's preferences and lifestyle best.



With an average of 75% water, [wet cat food](#) can also help your cat stay hydrated, especially since felines tend to not drink enough water. The high moisture content in wet food may be beneficial for cats with urinary tract problems, diabetes, or kidney disease.

Also, wet cat food is often more appealing than dry food and comes in a variety of flavors and textures to please all types of palates.

Pro Tip: Don't let wet cat food sit out in your cat's bowl for more than 20-30 minutes. Canned cat food doesn't stay fresh as long as dry food, so be sure to refrigerate any leftover food and serve within 72 hours. On the plus side, wet food has a long shelf life before it's opened and, with smaller, stackable containers, is easier to stock up on than larger dry cat food bags.

Learn the Benefits of Both Wet and Dry Cat Food

Benefits	 Wet Cat Food	 Dry Cat Food
Has high moisture content	✓ (up to 78%)	- (6-10% moisture)
Helps keep your cat hydrated	✓	-
Energy dense (Cats can consume calories quickly)	-	✓
Can provide cats with added vitamins and minerals	✓	✓
Contains essential nutrients like taurine	✓	✓
Doesn't require refrigeration after opening	-	✓
Long shelf life; easy to stack and store	✓	

Are There Benefits to Feeding Dry Food?

High-quality [dry cat food](#) usually contains up to 10% moisture, an animal protein source, vitamins, minerals, and other essential nutrients. It can feature one type of protein or a delicious variety of meat, poultry, and seafood.

Dry food is convenient because it can be left out in your cat's bowl to be eaten throughout the day. Don't forget, it's important to store dry cat food in cool, dry places.

Pro Tip: Keep dry recipes in their original bags and store in airtight containers to help preserve the nutritional value and flavor. Be sure to check the expiration date before feeding.

Cat Feeding Guide

How Many Times Should a Cat Eat Each Day?

Cats' caloric and nutritional requirements can vary based on age, metabolism, and whether they're in a reproductive stage. Always ask your veterinarian to recommend how much food your cat should eat daily, based on their weight, health, and lifestyle needs.

Kittens should eat about three times a day. It's a good idea to set up a [feeding schedule](#), like morning, afternoon, and evening to control your kitten's diet and ensure they don't overeat.

Should I Feed Both Wet and Dry Cat Food?

One of the best ways to entice a finicky cat is to mix wet and dry cat food or add a topper to create an irresistible combination of flavors, but make sure to feed the right portions of each. Eating too much wet or dry food can cause your cat to become [obese](#). matter what type of food your cat prefers, always feed a diet made with high-quality, nutritious ingredients that can help your favorite feline live a healthy and happy life.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can kittens eat adult wet food?

The amount of wet and dry food to feed your cat depends on several factors, including their weight, age, and activity level. It's important to follow the feeding guidelines on your cat's food and adjust the portions based on their specific needs.

Generally, kittens require more frequent meals and should be fed 3-4 times a day; it's recommended to feed $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup of wet food per meal.

It's recommended to feed adult cats twice a day, with $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of wet foods per meal, but the amount can vary based on the age and size of your cat. [Blue Buffalo's Tasteful Savory Singles wet cat food](#) is perfectly portioned for individual meals and helps reduce clean up. Senior cats generally follow the same guidelines as adult cats, but it's best to talk with your veterinarian to get a personalized feeding schedule.

Can kittens eat adult wet food?

It's not recommended because your kitten has different nutritional needs than an adult or mature cat. Check the package to be sure the food is labeled as complete and balanced and formulated specifically for a healthy growth life stage. Plus, kitten food usually includes DHA & ARA, which help support brain and eye development.

You can see a complete list of pet food label requirements at AAFCO.org.

Can I overfeed my cat wet food?

Yes, it is possible to overfeed your cat, even with wet food. Overfeeding can lead to various health issues, including obesity, which is a common concern for cats. It's important to carefully measure how much wet food you're feeding to ensure your cat maintains a healthy weight.

Are there benefits to feeding wet or dry cat food?

[Wet Cat Food](#)

1. Hydration: Wet cat food contains more water, which can help keep your cat hydrated.
2. Taste: Many cats prefer wet food because of its texture and smell, which is a plus for picky eaters.
3. Urinary Health: The increased moisture content in wet food may support urinary tract health and reduce the risk of urinary issues, such as [crystals](#).

[Dry Cat Food](#)

1. Convenience: Dry cat food is more convenient because it can be left out for grazing throughout the day and it's easier to store. It also has a longer shelf life.
2. Cost: In general, dry cat food is more cost-effective than wet food.
3. Nutrient Density: Dry cat food can be more nutrient-dense, providing essential nutrients in a smaller volume.