

## HOW TO GRADE YOUR DOG'S FOOD

### Start with a grade of 100:

#### Subtract Points

- |   | <b>100 Points</b> |
|---|-------------------|
| 1.) For every listing of "by-product"   | -10 _____         |
| 2.) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat, meal or fat) reference   | -10 _____         |
| 3.) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin  | -10 _____         |
| 4.) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source   | -5 _____          |
| 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) | -5 _____          |
| 6.) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 Ingredients   | -3 _____          |
| 7.) If it contains any artificial colorants   | -3 _____          |
| 8.) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn  | -3 _____          |
| 9.) If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients  | -2 _____          |
| 10.) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil  | -2 _____          |
| 11.) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein Sources)   | -2 _____          |
| 12.) If it contains soy or soybeans   | -2 _____          |
| 13.) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to wheat)   | -2 _____          |
| 14.) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to beef)   | -1 _____          |
| 15.) If it contains salt  | -1 _____          |

#### Extra Credit:

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1.) If any of the meat sources are organic  | +5 _____ |
| 2.) If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist  | +5 _____ |
| 3.) If the food is baked not extruded   | +5 _____ |
| 4.) If the food contains probiotics   | +3 _____ |
| 5.) If the food contains fruit  | +3 _____ |
| 6.) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains)  | +3 _____ |
| 7.) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free  | +2 _____ |
| 8.) If the food contains barley   | +2 _____ |
| 9.) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds)   | +2 _____ |
| 10.) If the food contains oats or oatmeal   | +1 _____ |
| 11.) If the food contains sunflower oil   | +1 _____ |
| 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 | +1 _____ |
| 13.) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin   | +1 _____ |
| 14.) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free   | +1 _____ |

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Scores:

94-100+	A
86-93	B
78-85	C
70-77	D
69 or lower	F

## HERE ARE SOME FOODS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN SCORED:

Just because a food has scored high does not necessarily mean it is good for your dog. Each dog should be evaluated on an individual basis.

Merrick Wilderness Blend / Score 127 A+  
Nature's Variety Raw Instinct / Score 122 A+  
Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Ultra Premium / Score 122 A+  
Innova Large Breed Puppy / Score 122 A+  
Timberwolf Organics Wild & Natural Dry / Score 120 A+  
Nature's Recipe Healthy Skin Venison and Rice / Score 116 A+  
Chicken Soup Senior / Score 115 A+  
Innova Dog / Score 114 A+  
Taste of the Wild Pacific Stream / Score 113 A+  
Canidae / Score 112 A+  
Wellness Super5 Mix Chicken / Score 110 A+  
Kirkland Signature Chicken, Rice, and Vegetables / Score 110 A+  
Royal Canin Natural Blend Adult / Score 106 A+  
Blue Buffalo Chicken and Rice / Score 106 A+  
Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Venison and Brown Rice / Score 106 A+  
Dick Van Patten's Duck and Potato / Score 106 A+  
Foundations / Score 106 A+  
Nutro Ultra Adult / Score 104 A+  
Royal Canin Boxer / Score 103 A+  
EaglePack Holistic / Score 102 A+  
Nutrience Junior Medium Breed Puppy / Score 101 A+  
Beowulf Back to Basics / Score 101 A+  
Flint River Senior / Score 101 A+  
Nature's Recipe / Score 100 A  
Diamond Large Breed 60+ Formula / Score 99 A  
Solid Gold / Score 99 A  
Nutro Natural Choice Lamb and Rice / Score 98 A  
Sensible Choice Chicken and Rice / Score 97 A  
Nutro Natural Choice Senior / Score 95 A  
Pro Plan Sensitive Stomach / Score 94 A  
Authority Harvest Baked Less Active / Score 93 B  
Nutro Max Adult / Score 93 B  
Diamond Lamb Meal & Rice / Score 92 B  
Nutro Natural Choice Large Breed Puppy / Score 87 B  
Nutro Natural Choice Puppy Wheat Free / Score 86 B  
Diamond Performance / Score 85 C  
Member's Mark Chicken and Rice / Score 84 C  
Blackwood 3000 Lamb and Rice / Score 83 C  
Eukanuba Adult / Score 81 C  
Alpo Prime Cuts / Score 81 C  
Pro Nature Puppy / Score 80 C  
Eukanuba Puppy / Score 79 C  
Iams Lamb Meal & Rice Formula Premium / Score 73 D  
Science Diet for Large Breed Puppies / Score 69 F  
Bil-Jac Select / Score 68 F  
Science Diet Advanced Protein Senior 7+ / Score 63 F  
Purina Dog / Score 62 F  
Purina One Large Breed Puppy / Score 62 F  
Purina Beneful / Score 17 F

For more updates and reviews we recommend [www.dogfoodadvisor.com](http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com)