

GENERAL DOG FEEDING NOTES – PRO PLAN

All Complete Dog Diets are labelled according to the manufactures guide lines and professionals such as Vets, Trainers alike, also go by their own experiences. If you are uncertain about the product guidelines then please telephone the Purina Pet Care Pro Plan Help line number, 0871 230 2325, they are extremely helpful.

We at MDL Pet Services Limited fully endorse the benefits of feeding Pro Plan, over many other complete diets on the market. This is a massive industry and Breeders and Vets alike will generally have the monopoly on most of the products available. If I say to you that it costs about £4.00 to make a top quality bag of dog food, which then retails for approximately £40.00 per bag, you will then begin to understand the enormity of the market.

As a general guide, and as a professional opinion of over 32 years of working with dogs, there is no real need to feed tinned meat with a complete diet. If it is a mixer diet, then yes this maybe necessary. I would feed my puppy (all breeds) 4 times a day up to the age of 6 months, then twice a day for the rest of its life. Smaller regular feeding causes less digestion problems. I would feed at 9am, 1pm, 5pm and then 9pm. Some dogs may only eat the 3 meals so I would remove the 1pm feed. When on 2 feeds I would aim to feed 9am then 9pm. This is much better for the dog as we should not feed prior to vehicle travel plus allows the 'puppy' plenty of scope for exercise without constraints and also promotes positive toilet training.

One of the main benefits of Pro Plan is the smaller food quantities required to sustain a healthy dog. Comparisons between amounts and manufactures cannot be made in this way as they will differ, according to brand. It is not something that can be black or white as breed types, shapes and sizes, as with humans, can and will affect a dog's appetite.

Many years ago dogs were simply fed on scraps but thankfully now the choices are numerous. I do not suggest a routine change of diet simply because of brand type, Pro Plan, in my view, is the best available on the market. I work with a number of Vets and all would recommend their own products, based on their experiences.

Each dog will have an ideal body weight, for breed type. You should have received from your breeder a feeding guide and a puppy weight check, showing its birth weight and weight gain through the first 8 weeks of life. As a breeder of Rottweilers, this information is vital to the new owner as weight gain is a good indicator of health. The canine community is vast and diverse with many expert opinions, all of whom may have a valid point.

For us at MDL Pet Services Limited we do not gain any monetary benefit from the Pro Plan Products that we recommend other than sponsorship of dog food for our own staff dogs. My recommendations are simply based on my first hand experience.

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