



# CANINE HEALTH

ebook

The Ultimate Guide to Feeding Your Dog a Raw Meat Diet

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## WHY CHOOSE A RAW MEAT DIET FOR YOUR DOG?

A raw meat diet mimics the natural diet of wild dogs. It is rich in proteins, fats, and essential nutrients that are vital to your dog's overall health. Many dog owners have noticed that switching to a raw diet improved their pet's coat, energy level, and digestion.

## BENEFITS OF A RAW DIET:

- Improved coat and skin health: The essential fatty acids in raw foods contribute to a shinier coat and healthier skin.
- Better digestion: Raw foods are easier for dogs to digest, resulting in firmer stools and fewer digestive issues.
- Higher energy levels: The protein-rich diet helps dogs maintain energy and stamina.
- Cleaner teeth and fresher breath: Chewing raw bones can help clean your dog's teeth and reduce tartar.



## IS A RAW DIET SUITABLE FOR ALL DOGS?

Not all dogs are suited for a raw diet. Puppies, senior dogs, or dogs with health issues may require adjustments. Always consult your veterinarian before switching diets.



# 2. UNDERSTANDING YOUR DOG'S NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

## BASIC NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Dogs need a balanced diet rich in proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals. A raw diet includes high-quality protein sources, but must also provide bones, organs, and vegetables to meet all nutritional needs.

## ADJUSTING DIETS FOR LIFE STAGES:

- **Puppies:** need more calcium and phosphorus for growth and should eat more frequently.

- **Adult dogs:** need a balanced nutrient intake to stay healthy.

- **Senior dogs:** need joint-supporting nutrients and may require a lower-calorie diet.

## BREED-SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS:

- **Working breeds:** may require higher fat intake for sustained energy.

- **Small breeds:** need smaller, more frequent meals.

- **Brachycephalic breeds:** may benefit from easily digestible proteins.





# 3. COMPONENTS OF A BALANCED RAW MEAT DIET

## **Meat: choosing the right protein sources**

Variety is essential. Rotate proteins such as chicken, beef, lamb, and fish to ensure your dog receives all necessary nutrients.

## **Chicken Recipe (example)**

Portion size: 1/2 lb patties (8 oz)

Box size: 12 lb

Ingredients: Chicken meat, chicken heart, chicken liver, finely ground chicken carcass, alfalfa, ground flaxseed, beetroot, fish oil, carrots, brewer's yeast, salt, seaweed, zinc proteinate, vitamin E supplement, iron proteinate, manganese proteinate, copper proteinate.

## **Salmon & Pork Recipe**

Portion size: 1/2 lb patties (8 oz)

Box size: 12 lb

Ingredients: Whole salmon, Quebec pork meat, finely ground pork bones, pork organs (liver or heart), fresh vegetables (carrots, beetroot), alfalfa, salt, choline chloride, zinc proteinate, vitamin E supplement, iron proteinate, manganese proteinate, copper proteinate, thiamine mononitrate, biotin supplement.



# 3. COMPONENTS OF A BALANCED RAW MEAT DIET



## **Bones: safe options and how to serve them**

Always serve raw bones, never cooked. Choose bones appropriate for your dog's size (e.g., chicken necks for small dogs, beef shank bones for large dogs).

## **Organs: essential nutrients your dog needs**

Organs should make up about 10% of your dog's diet. They are packed with vitamins and minerals crucial to health.

## **Vegetables and supplements: adding balance**

Vegetables provide extra fiber, while supplements such as fish oil or kelp powder can fill nutritional gaps.



# 4. PORTION SIZES AND FEEDING GUIDELINES

## How to calculate the right portion size:

Feed 2–3% of your dog’s body weight per day.

Feeding Chart	Daily portions
1–10 lbs	0.25 lbs
10–20 lbs	0.4 lbs
20–25 lbs	0.5 lbs
25–50 lbs	0.85 lbs
50–75 lbs	1.5 lbs
80–100 lbs	2 lbs





# 5. HOW OFTEN TO FEED A RAW MEAT DIET

## DAILY FEEDING SCHEDULES:

**Adult dogs:**  
1–2 meals per day

**Puppies:**  
3 meals per day

**Active dogs:**  
2–3 meals per day

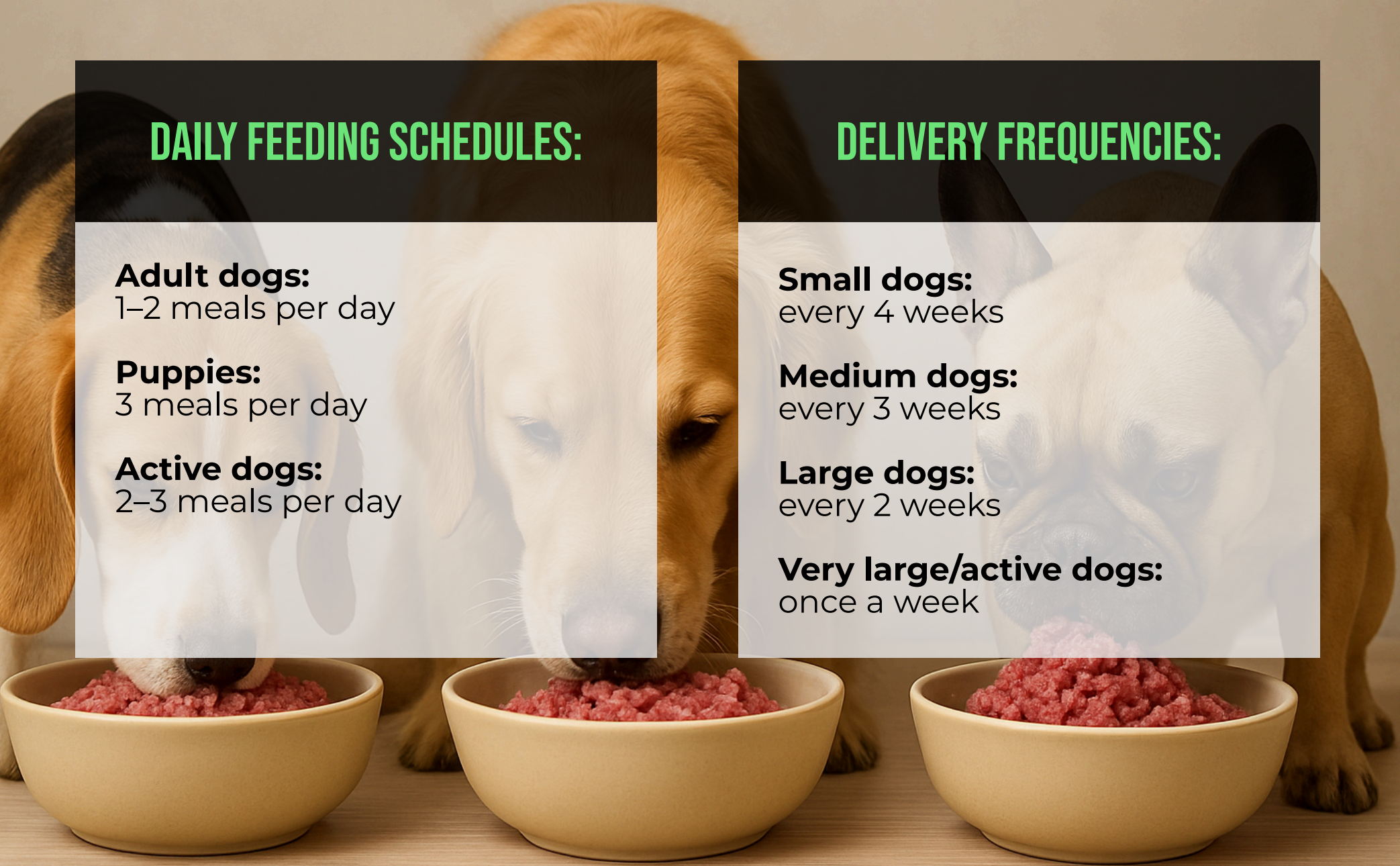
## DELIVERY FREQUENCIES:

**Small dogs:**  
every 4 weeks

**Medium dogs:**  
every 3 weeks

**Large dogs:**  
every 2 weeks

**Very large/active dogs:**  
once a week



## 6. SAFETY AND HANDLING TIPS



Follow safe food handling practices to avoid contamination. Always wash your hands after handling raw food and store meals in airtight containers.





## 7. TRANSITIONING TO A RAW MEAT DIET



For adult dogs (not puppies or pregnant females), begin with a 24-hour fast. Start feeding thawed meals for a week, then move to frozen or semi-frozen meals.



# 8. UNDERSTANDING THE COSTS

## Budgeting for a raw diet:

Premium kibble averages \$3–\$4 per pound, with dogs eating about 2% of their body weight daily. Raw food can be slightly more expensive but provides superior nutrition.

Example cost comparison (Raw vs Premium Kibble)			
10 lbs dog	\$0.83/day (raw)	vs	\$0.60–\$0.80/day (kibble)
25 lbs dog	\$1.67/day (raw)	vs	\$1.50–\$2.00/day (kibble)
50 lbs dog	\$3.33/day (raw)	vs	\$3.00–\$4.00/day (kibble)
75 lbs dog	\$5.00/day (raw)	vs	\$4.50–\$6.00/day (kibble)

# 9. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ▶ **Is it safe to feed raw meat to my dog?**

Yes, as long as proper handling and storage practices are followed.

## ▶ **Do I need to add supplements?**

Not necessarily, but fish oil, probiotics, or kelp powder can help fill nutritional gaps.

## ▶ **Can puppies and senior dogs eat raw meat?**

Yes, with adjustments. Puppies need more calcium/phosphorus and frequent meals. Seniors may need softer meats and bones.

## ▶ **How to ensure nutritional balance?**

Variety is key: alternate protein sources, include organs, bones, and vegetables.

Consult your veterinarian for regular health checks.

# 10. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Raw Feeding Veterinary Society

Benefits of Raw Feeding

Recommended reading: "Raw and Natural Nutrition for Dogs" by Lew Olson

Online communities: Dogster Raw Feeding Forum

**For further assistance:**

Customer support: [info@nutrikarnivor.com](mailto:info@nutrikarnivor.com)





# CONCLUSION



Feeding your dog a raw meat diet provides natural, balanced nutrition aligned with its biological needs. With the guidelines and tips in this guide, you'll be well on your way to giving your dog the best possible diet for a healthy, happy life.



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