# Pet Nutrition & Feeding Guide

Pet Radius • Complete Guide to Schedules, Diets, and Unsafe Foods

> Proper diet and feeding habits lay the foundation for your pet's lifelong health and energy. Use this guide to manage feeding schedules and avoid hazardous foods.

## 1. FEEDING SCHEDULES BY LIFE STAGE

| LIFE STAGE | DOGS | CATS |
|---|---|---|
| **Puppies / Kittens (2–6 mos)** | 3 to 4 meals daily (puppy formula) | 3 to 4 meals daily (kitten formula) |
| **Adult Pets (1–7 yrs)** | 2 meals daily (morning & evening) | 2 meals daily or measured portion feeding |
| **Senior Pets (7+ yrs)** | 2 meals daily (senior formula, highly digestible) | 2 meals daily (increased moisture/wet food) |

## 2. CHOOSING HIGH-QUALITY FOOD

### Understanding Food Labels

Look for real meat (e.g., chicken, salmon, beef) listed as the first ingredient. Ensure the label meets AAFCO nutritional standards for your pet's specific life stage.

### Transitioning Foods Safely

When changing diets, mix the new food into the current diet over 7 to 10 days (25% new for 2 days, 50% for 3 days, 75% for 2 days) to prevent GI upset.

## 3. UNSAFE & TOXIC FOODS (DO NOT FEED)

| TOXIC FOOD | RISK / HEALTH IMPACT |
|---|---|
| **Chocolate, Coffee & Caffeine** | Contains theobromine/caffeine; causes vomiting, heart arrhythmia, and seizures. |
| **Grapes & Raisins** | Highly toxic to dogs; can trigger acute kidney failure. |
| **Onions, Garlic & Chives** | Damages red blood cells causing anemia in both dogs and cats. |
| **Xylitol (Artificial Sweetener)** | Found in peanut butter/candy; causes rapid insulin release leading to liver failure. |