



P.O. Box 78090  
Callingwood RPO  
Edmonton, AB T5T 6A1

P. (780) 455-3647  
F. (780) 401-3254

[www.arushapetfoods.com](http://www.arushapetfoods.com)  
[info@arushapetfoods.com](mailto:info@arushapetfoods.com)

## Switching to & feeding a raw meat diet

Some pets switch over to a raw diet more readily than others. There are a few reasons for this. Older ones tend to be more difficult. Pets that have food left out all day for them are not used to feeling hunger and may beg all day for food. When switching, you can give in to start, but slowly cut down on meals. Pets fed only dry are more difficult as they are not used to a moist texture. Commercial pet food is addictive because of the additives used.

Confidence, love and perseverance will conquer all these problems in time. Your pet cannot be rushed. Transition may be done in as little as a week to several months. Lots of love and coaxing will help. Talk gently to your pet. Our cats were a bit hesitant at first and putting a small bit on our finger got them to be brave and then they became more eager to try it. Our dogs were not hesitant at all and seemed to say “Why didn’t you feed this sooner? It’s so good!”

Depending on your pet’s eating habits, getting them used to two meals a day is the first step. Some young pets (between 1-6 years) may be satisfied with one meal a day, but two meals are generally recommended. Chicken or turkey will typically be the easiest to start with. Some cats may take to it right off. Dogs aren’t normally as particular, but may prefer red meat. If not, allow them to work up an appetite (6-12 hrs), and then slowly mix small amounts of raw food into the dry or canned. Increase the amount of raw if the pet is accepting the new food. Go slow if your pet is unsure. Some pets need more time. We always praised our cats at feeding time to encourage them to eat it. Getting your pet used to plain raw meat may help if they’re a bit hesitant or even cooking it and then cooking it less and less.

The amounts depend on your pet’s age and activity level. If your cat is not overweight, let them eat until they are full. Young animals eat more than seniors. Active ones eat more than inactive ones. Senior and inactive dogs may maintain a healthy body weight on 1% whereas a young active dog may require 3% or more. Dogs should be given a ration, as they will typically eat as much as is available, as they are naturally opportunistic eaters. Puppies & Kittens under 3 months should eat 4 times a day, 3-6 months 3 times a day, and 6 months & up twice a day.

Pets don’t eat as much raw food as commercial as it is very high in protein and their bodies can metabolize it right away.

Also, feed canned salmon, sardines or mackerel on occasion. Look for those packed in spring water or natural juice and preferably sugar and salt free.



P.O. Box 78090  
 Callingwood RPO  
 Edmonton, AB T5T 6A1

P. (780) 455-3647  
 F. (780) 401-3254

www.arushapetfoods.com  
 info@arushapetfoods.com

## Serving and handling instructions

This food is purchased frozen and is to remain frozen until ready to feed. Cats prefer freshly defrosted food and any leftovers should be discarded after 24 hours. Dog food may stay refrigerated for 2-3 days max after thawing. Never refreeze any food. Defrost the food in the fridge. It will take 12 – 24 hours to defrost depending on size of container.

A warm water bath for about 5 minutes will take the chill out. Most pets prefer warm food. Warm it to barely cool or barely warm if your pet prefers, but be careful not to cook it at all. Never microwave your pet's food. Be thorough with clean up as this is raw meat.

Our pets eat right away, but if your pet needs to work up an appetite, you may leave the food out for 30-60 minutes, but no more. Smelling the food will start to build an appetite and get the digestive juices flowing. Refrigerate the uneaten portions immediately afterward and discard the food after doing this twice.

## Feeding guidelines

	Age	Feedings per day	Amounts
Dogs:	Puppies up to 3 months	4	5-10% of body weight
	3 – 6 months	3	5-10% of body weight
	6 – 12 months	2	5-10% of body weight
	Adult	2	2-3% of body weight, based on activity level and age. Monitor condition and adjust as necessary.
			For younger dogs, feed a higher level of meat and bones. You can mix a dinner patty with an MBO patty to reduce vegetable content and increase the meat and bone portion. Chicken necks and backs also provide high bone content and the chewing is good exercise.
Cats:	Kittens up to 3 months	4	5-10% of body weight (200g-350g)
	3 – 6 months	3	5-10% of body weight (300g-350g)
	6 – 12 months	2	5% of body weight(200g)
	Adult	2	2-3% of body weight, based on activity level and age. Monitor condition and adjust as necessary.

If your animal is not an overeater, you may just let them eat till they are satisfied. Get to know how to check if your pet is over weight, under weight or just right; your vet usually has a chart on the wall that describes the body conditions.