



FEEDING YOUR CAT CANNED FOOD

Meal feeding your cat a quality canned food diet instead of only dry kibble may help save your cat from some painful and costly illnesses.

Illnesses and medical problems that are commonly seen in cats that eat dry food only include:

- Diabetes
- Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease
- Obesity
- Mobility problems caused by obesity (arthritis)

3 negatives to feeding dry food:

- Too many carbs!
- Cats are carnivores so too many carbohydrates aren't good or natural for your cat.
- The type of protein may not be right
- There may be more plant-based than animal-based protein.
- Not enough water

Foods to avoid due to their high carbohydrate content:

- Any dry cat food (or dry dog food which cats should never eat)
- Any canned food that is chunks or slices in sauce or gravy (they contain glutens as thickeners)
- Dry or soft treats eg. Pounce
- Semi-moist food eg. Tender Vittles (which are high in sugar)
- Food in pouches (except for some Nutro flavors)

Ideas for switching your cat to canned food:

- Start feeding scheduled meals, even if your cat is used to having food out all the time, they will adjust to eating 2-3 meals if you stay consistent.
- Start introducing canned food by mixing small amounts in with the dry food.
- If your cat isn't eating the canned food, you can try making the canned food watery enough for your cat to lap up.
- Gradually increase the amount of canned food and decrease the amount of dry food.
- It should take a minimum of 7 days to completely switch your cat over to its new food, but can take up to 3 months for some cats that are a little more fussy.
- NOTE: While you are switching your cat to a new food, make sure they continue to eat. Your cat shouldn't go longer than 24 hours without eating.

Some cats do best eating 100% canned food, however having your cat on 50% canned food and 50% dry food is acceptable.