Food and Why

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| Alcoholic beverages | Can cause intoxication, seizures, low blood sugar, arrhythmias,[*coma*](javascript:popupWin1('/dictionary_term.cfm?term=coma',%2050,%2050,%20350,%20300)), and death. |
| Avocado | The leaves, seeds, fruit, and bark contain persin, which can cause vomiting and diarrhea. |
| Bones from fish, poultry, or other meat sources | Can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system. |
| Cat food | Generally too high in protein and fats. |
| [Chocolate, coffee, tea, and other caffeine](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2238) | Contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can cause vomiting and diarrhea and be toxic to the heart and nervous systems. |
| [Citrus oil extracts](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1938&articleid=2281) | Can cause vomiting. |
| Fat trimmings | Can cause [pancreatitis](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1580&articleid=335). |
| Fish (raw, canned or cooked) | If fed exclusively or in high amounts can result in a [thiamine (a B vitamin)](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1662&articleid=712) deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death. |
| [Grapes, raisins and currants](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2409) | Contain an unknown toxin, which can damage the kidneys. There have been no problems associated with grape seed extract. |
| Hops | Unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate, elevated temperature, seizures, and death. |
| Human vitamin supplements containing [iron](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1937&articleid=2244) | Can damage the lining of the digestive system and be toxic to the other organs including the liver and kidneys. |
| [Macadamia nuts](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2411) | Contain an unknown toxin, which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscle. |
| [Marijuana](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1937&articleid=2254) | Can depress the nervous system, cause vomiting, and changes in the heart rate. |
| Milk and other dairy products | Some adult dogs and cats may develop diarrhea if given large amounts of dairy products. |
| [Moldy or spoiled food, garbage](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2407) | Can contain multiple toxins causing vomiting and diarrhea and can also affect other organs. |
| [Mushrooms](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2413) | Can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death. |
| [Onions and garlic](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1939&articleid=2414) (raw, cooked, or powder) | Contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause [*anemia*](javascript:popupWin1('/dictionary_term.cfm?term=anemia',%2050,%2050,%20350,%20300)). Cats are more susceptible than dogs. |
| Persimmons | Seeds can cause intestinal obstruction and [enteritis](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1556&articleid=450). |
| Pits from peaches and plums | Can cause obstruction of the digestive tract. |
| Raw eggs | Contain an enzyme called avidin, which decreases the absorption of[biotin (a B vitamin)](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1662&articleid=712). This can lead to skin and hair coat problems as well as neurologic abnormalities. Raw eggs may also contains *Salmonella*. |
| Raw meat | May contain bacteria such as *Salmonella* and *E. coli*, which can cause vomiting and diarrhea.\* |
| Rhubarb leaves | Contain oxalates, which can affect the digestive, nervous, and urinary systems. |
| Salt | If eaten in large quantities it may lead to [*electrolyte*](javascript:popupWin1('/dictionary_term.cfm?term=electrolyte',%2050,%2050,%20350,%20300)) imbalances, seizures, and even death. |
| String | Can become trapped in the digestive system; called a "string foreign body." |
| Sugary foods | Can lead to [obesity](http://www.peteducation.com/category_summary.cfm?cls=2&cat=1660), dental problems, and possibly [diabetes mellitus](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1579&articleid=860). |
| Table scraps (in large amounts) | Table scraps are not nutritionally balanced. They should never be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed. |
| Tobacco | Contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems. Can result in rapid heart beat, collapse, coma, and death. |
| Yeast dough | Can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines. |
| [Xylitol](http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?aid=3586)(artificial sweetener) | Can cause very low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), which can result in vomiting, weakness and collapse. In high doses can cause liver failure and death. |

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| Cinnamon | Cinnamon and its oils can irritate the inside of pets’ mouths, making them uncomfortable and sick. It can lower a dog’s blood sugar too much and can lead to diarrhea, vomiting, increased, or decreased heart rate and even liver disease. If they inhale it in powder form, cinnamon can cause difficulty breathing, coughing, and choking. |
| Apricots | Like cherries, the seeds, leaves and stems of apricot plants are toxic to dogs. While they are able to consume the pulp of the fruit with no ill effects, caution should be taken if your dog has access to any other parts of the plant. These plants also contain cyanide, and can result in respiratory failure and death. |
| Nutmeg | Nutmeg can also be stored in the pantry with other potentially hazardous substances for pets. Often used as a spice for baking, nutmeg's rich, spicy scent is attractive to dogs. High levels can be fatal. Signs include tremors, seizures and nervous system abnormalities.. |
| Baby Food | Cat food contains proteins and fats that are targeted at the diet of a cat, not a dog. The protein and fat levels in cat food are too high for your dog, and not healthy. |
| Broccoli | Gastrointestinal irritant. |