

The Best Dry Dog Food Brands 2024 | DogFoodAdvisor

Pet parents like to ask... "What's the **best dry dog food** on the market?"

Unfortunately...

Conflicting advice, deceptive marketing and thousands of dry dog food options can make finding the best brands a **challenge**.

So... we combined the top picks from our own editors... with those of the many pet food designers, **nutritionists** and **veterinarians** we've interviewed since launching The Dog Food Advisor... back in 2008.

On this page... we'll share the **best dry dog foods** on the market. And we'll answer the most [frequently asked questions](#) we get about finding and feeding quality kibbles.



The Best Dry Dog Foods April 2024

Here are The Dog Food Advisor's **best dry dog foods** for April 2024.



[Redbarn Grain Free Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Redbarn Grain-Free Sky is one of **3 dry recipes** studied in our [review of the Redbarn](#) dry product line.

First 5 ingredients: Turkey, chicken, chicken meal, duck meal, turkey meal

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Land and ocean

Price: \$\$

[See all 3 available recipes](#)

Redbarn Sky derives the bulk of its meat protein from **fresh turkey and chicken**. Dry matter label analysis reveals a wet recipe containing 31% protein, 17% fat and 44% estimated carbs... with a fat-to-protein ratio of about 55%.

A wholesome grain-free product. Recommended with confidence.

Actual buyer review... “As a pet owner I always want the best for them. Made the best decision in choosing this brand. The combination of ingredients, flavors as well as nutrients. The best . My dog loves it. Highly Recommended!!”

[Learn more at Redbarn.com](#)



[Open Farm Grass Fed Beef](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Grass Fed Beef is one of **21 dry recipes** revied in [our review](#) of the Open Farm product line.

First 5 ingredients: Humainly raised beef, ocean whitefish meal, field peas, sweet potato, beef livers

Type: Grain-free

Other Recipes: Turkey, salmon, lamb, pork, and whitefish just to name a few

Price: \$\$

This Open Farm recipe obtains the bulk of its animal protein from **beef**. Dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 36% protein, 18% fat and 38% estimated carbs... producing a fat-to-protein ratio of about 48%.

A perfect source of premium nutrition. Recommended.

Sample buyer review... “Lola has had some type of food allergies since she was a puppy and it took so much trial and error until we found Open Farm. She loves the food and she is so healthy with a happy tummy. I love how the food is sourced and the quality ingredients.”

[Read more buyer reviews at OpenFarmPet.com](#)



[A Pup Above Chicka Pupatouille](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Chicken Pupatouille is one of **4 dehydrated recipes** covered in [our review](#) of the A Pup Above product line.

First 5 ingredients: Chicken, chicken heart, sweet potato, barley, oat

Type: Grain-inclusive (barley, oat)

Other recipes: Beef pot roast, Porkey's porchetta, and turkey pilaf

Price: \$\$

[See all 4 available recipes](#)

A Pup Above acquires the lions share of its meat protein from **chicken**. Dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 33% protein, 21% fat and 38% estimated carbs... resulting a fat-to-protein ratio of about 63%.

Sample buyer review... “The Cubies make it so easy to feed on the go. We've used them for training or when we're out and about during mealtime, and love that we're still getting everything we love from the fresh recipe. Kirby gets so excited when the Cubies box comes out! He knows he's in for something special.”

[Read more buyer reviews at APupAbove.com](#)



[Spot and Tango Unkibble](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Unkibble Chicken and Brown Rice is one of **3 dry recipes** included in [our review](#) of the Spot and Tango product line.

First 5 ingredients: Chicken, brown rice, sweet potatoes, carrots, apples

Type: Grain-inclusive (brown rice)

Other Recipes: Beef and Cod

Price: \$\$

[See all 3 available recipes](#)

Spot and Tango Unkibble derives the majority of its animal protein from **fresh chicken**. Dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 26% protein, 17% fat and 49% estimated carbs... [producing a fat-to-protein ratio of about 64%].

The quality of fresh ingredients just dry. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “I always worry that the regular dry kibble isn’t enough nutrition for Hoagie. This is a good alternative that doesn’t require me feeding him a full meal of raw food (which gives me sticker-shock and I worry if I don’t feed it to him fast enough for it to still be fresh.)”

[Read more buyer reviews at SpotandTango.com](#)



[Jinx Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Salmon and Sweet Potato recipe is one of **4 dry recipes** included in [our review](#) of the Jinx product line.

First 5 ingredients: Salmon, pearled barley, ground peas, turkey meal, brown rice

Type: Grain-inclusive (pearled barley, brown rice)

Other recipes: Chicken, Salmon, and Grain-Free

Price: \$\$\$

[See all 4 available recipes](#)

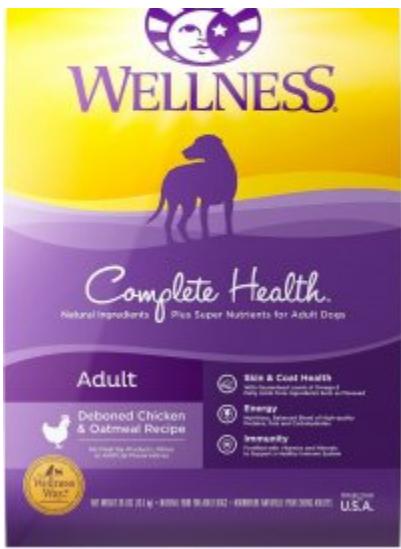
This Jinx recipe derives the bulk of its animal protein from **fresh salmon**. Dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 30% protein, 16% fat and 46% estimated carbs... creating a fat-to-protein ratio of about 52%.

A fully-balanced, grain-inclusive dog food. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “Finally found a new food we are happy with! My dog loves the salmon flavor and we can't wait to try the chicken sampler! We especially love how much thought goes into the food and it's ingredients.”

[Read more buyer reviews at ThinkJinx.com](#)





Wellness Complete Health Dry Dog Food

Rating: ★★★★★★

Wellness Complete Health Adult Deboned Chicken and Oatmeal is one of **13 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Wellness Complete Health](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Deboned chicken, chicken meal, oatmeal, ground barley, peas

Type: Grain-inclusive (oatmeal, barley, brown rice)

Other recipes: Senior, puppy, large breed, small breed, whitefish and sweet potato, lamb and barley, turkey and oatmeal and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 13 available recipes](#)

This Wellness Complete Health formula derives the bulk of its meat protein from **chicken and chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the product contains 27% protein, 13% fat and 52% estimated carbs... creating a fat-to-protein ratio of about 50%.

One of the best grain-inclusive kibbles on the market. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... "I have three dogs, all different breeds and sizes. They all love this food; it has caused absolutely no stomach issues... After discussing this with our awesome Veterinarian she recommended Wellness and our Goldendoodle hasn't had any stomach issues in 5 years. The stomach issues brought us to Wellness, but the quality ingredients kept us loyal."

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



Instinct Original Grain-Free Dry

Rating: ★★★★★

Instinct Original with Real Beef is one of **5 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Instinct Original](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Beef, chicken meal, white fish meal, peas, chicken fat

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Small breed, chicken, duck, rabbit, salmon and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 5 available recipes](#)

This Instinct example derives the majority of its animal protein from **beef and chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 40% protein, 23% fat and 29% estimated carbs... which creates a fat-to-protein ratio of about 57%.

With multiple “flavor” options, Instinct makes an ideal choice for feeding picky eaters. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “Our rescued English Bulldog has been eating this product since she arrived. She has no allergy issues and seems to be doing well with this formula. She is eager to eat. She’s digesting the product well and her flatulence is now non-existent. Happy dog, happy home!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



Nature's Logic Dry Dog Food

Rating: ★★★★★

Nature's Logic Canine Chicken Meal Feast is one of **11 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Nature's Logic product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, millet, chicken fat, pumpkin seed, yeast culture

Type: Grain-inclusive (millet)

Other recipes: Venison, beef, pork, rabbit, sardine, turkey, lamb, duck and more

Price: \$\$

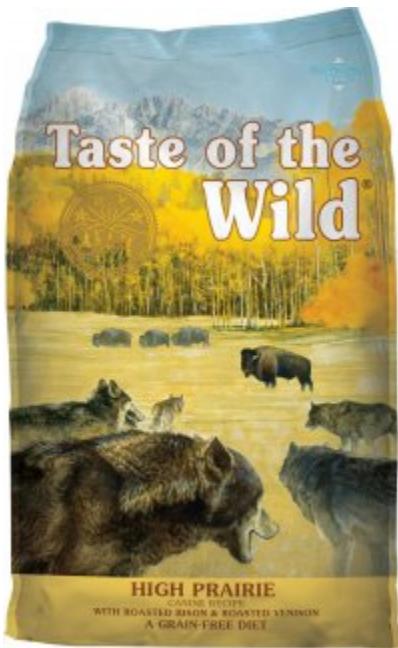
[See all 9 available recipes](#)

This Nature's Logic example recipe derives the bulk of its meat protein from **chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the product contains 40% protein, 17% fat and 36% estimated carbs... yielding a fat-to-protein ratio of about 42%.

Nature's Logic is one of the few dry brands meeting AAFCO nutrient standards by using live feeding trials. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... "I have been feeding this for 3 months now and their skin and coats have cleared up nicely. No more greasy smelly fur babies. Plus no more pills on a daily basis. Yes it's a little more expensive but I'm saving in vet bills. Trying to find a grain and potato free kibble is nearly impossible but I hit a home run here."

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Taste of the Wild Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

High Prairie is one of **9 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Taste of the Wild product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Buffalo, lamb meal, chicken meal, sweet potatoes, peas

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Puppy, small breed, salmon, venison and more

Price: \$

[See all 9 available recipes](#)

High Prairie derives the majority of its meat protein from **fresh buffalo**, as well as both **chicken and lamb meals**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 36% protein, 20% fat and 36% estimated carbs... producing a fat-to-protein ratio of about 56%.

Taste of the Wild provides a top-rated, nutrient-balanced formula at an affordable price. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “We have had a tough run with our sensitive GSD with diarrhea, itchy butt and ears. After trying multiple types of foods leading to severe enteritis, we gave TOW high prairie a try. Within days, solid poop and no itching! We are so relieved!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Blue Buffalo Life Protection Dry](#)

Rating: ★★★★☆

Blue Buffalo Life Protection Chicken and Rice is one of **21 kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Blue Buffalo Life Protection](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Deboned chicken, chicken meal, brown rice, barley, oatmeal

Type: Grain-inclusive (brown rice, barley, oatmeal)

Other recipes: Puppy, large breed, small breed, senior, lamb, fish and more

Price: \$

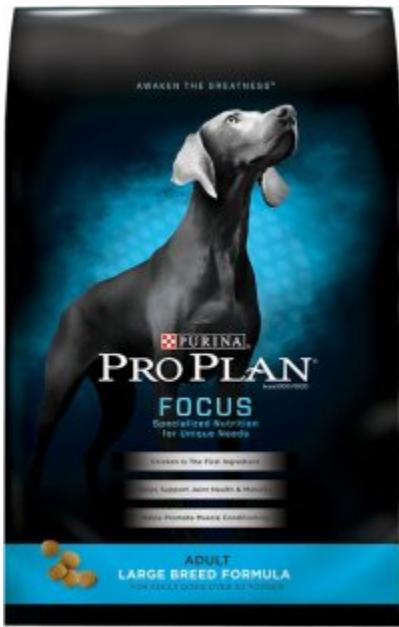
[See all 21 available recipes](#)

This Life Protection example derives the majority of its animal protein from **chicken** and **chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 27% protein, 16% fat and 50% estimated carbs... creating a fat-to-protein ratio of about 58%.

A top-rated, grain-inclusive kibble. One of The Advisor's most popular recommendations.

Sample buyer review... "My dog is a very picky eater with a sensitive stomach (he is a chocolate heeler) and this food has done wonders for him. He's finally eating as much as he should without stomach issues and it's made him almost a brand new dog. I tried a few different foods with him but this seemed to give me the best results..."

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Purina Pro Plan Focus Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★★

Pro Plan Large Breed Adult is one of **19 kibbles** featured in our [review of the Purina Pro Plan Focus](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Chicken, brewers rice, whole grain wheat, corn gluten meal, whole grain corn

Type: Grain-inclusive (rice, wheat, corn, barley)

Other recipes: Puppy, small breed, sensitive skin and stomach, senior, weight management and more

Price: \$

[See all 19 available recipes](#)

Focus Large Breed Adult derives the majority of its animal protein from **fresh chicken**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 30% protein, 14% fat and 49% estimated carbs... creating a fat-to-protein ratio of about 46%.

Pro Plan is one of the dog food brands most frequently mentioned by breeders and veterinary professionals.

Each recipe has been expertly formulated by a team of board certified veterinary nutritionists.

In addition, the entire Pro Plan product line is designed and manufactured according to [rigorous](#)

[guidelines](#) recommended by the World Small Animal Veterinary Association.

Purina Pro Plan is one of the very best brands you'll find on this or any list. And it's easy on the budget, too. Highly recommended.

Actual buyer review... "My black lab loves this food. Her coat is beautiful, her energy is high, and she digests it easily. My vet recommended this food and I couldn't be happier. I saw a noticeable difference within days of feeding this to her. My dog eats the dry food with a little bit of the PPP wet focus for large breeds. Do not hesitate to feed this to your pups.. it's a game-changer!"

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Canidae Grain-Free Pure Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Canidae Pure Real Salmon and Sweet Potato is one of **10 dry kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Canidae Grain-Free Pure product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Salmon, salmon meal, menhaden fish meal, sweet potatoes, peas

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Puppy, senior, bison, lamb, duck, small breed, large breed, limited ingredient and more

Price: \$\$\$

[See all 10 available recipes](#)

This Canidae Grain-Free product derives the majority of its meat protein from **fresh salmon**, as well as salmon and **menhaden fish meals**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 36% protein, 20% fat and 36% estimated carbs... which produces a fat-to-protein ratio of about 56%.

An exceptional, dry recipe, free of corn, wheat or soy. A top recommendation.

Sample buyer review... “After switching dog foods several times due to my girl having a very sensitive stomach we tried this on a recommendation. No more issues and she LOVES the food. What more could you ask for?”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Orijen Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Orijen Original is one of **9 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Orijen](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Deboned chicken, deboned turkey, Atlantic flounder, cage-free eggs, whole Atlantic mackerel

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Puppy, fish, venison, duck, senior and more

Price: \$\$\$

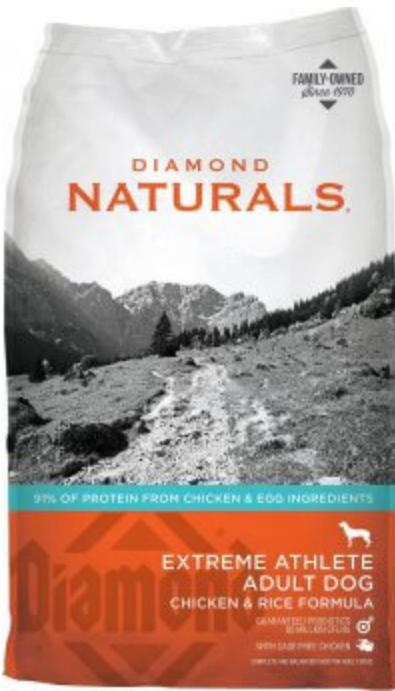
[See all 9 available recipes](#)

This Orijen product derives the majority of its animal protein from **chicken, turkey and fish**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 43% protein, 21% fat and 28% estimated carbs... which produces a fat-to-protein ratio of about 47%.

A meat-rich, dry dog food made by a quality company... known for its superior, biologically appropriate designs. Not cheap... but worthy of serious consideration.

Sample buyer review... “Since I rescued Pewee(a jack a bee)I been trying to find a dog food he would eat. He refused to eat every dry or wet food I tried to feed. So I had a friend who had a similar problem with her dog, so she gave me some Orijen to try since her picky eat loved it from day one. So I tried it and he loved it as soon as I put it in his bowl he ate every bite. So I ordered a bag and it was here in two days, it was fresh and had a great smell to it. As soon as I put it in his bowl he eats every piece of it and wants more! Since he's been on it his coat looks much better, he has more energy and go's to bathroom on a regular basis. I can't say enough about this food. Thank you orijen!!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy](#)



[Diamond Naturals Dry Kibble](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Diamond Naturals Extreme Athlete is one of **13 kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Diamond Naturals product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, chicken, ground white rice, chicken fat, cracked pearled barley

Type: Grain-inclusive (ground white rice, cracked pearled barley)

Other recipes: Large breed, small breed, puppy, senior, lamb, beef and more

Price: \$

[See all 13 available recipes](#)

This Diamond Naturals formula derives most of its animal protein from **chicken meal and fresh chicken**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 36% protein, 28% fat and 29% estimated carbs... which yields a fat-to-protein ratio of about 78%.

Diamond Naturals was recently selected as one of our [most affordable dog foods](#). Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “I own competitive English setter females. I’m always looking for the best value per pound in what I feed my dogs. Over the past 25 years I’ve tried many different foods and found that 30/20 or higher works best based upon the condition, looks, stamina, palatability and stool size, consistency and frequency. I’ve fed this food before and found it is very close to, if not better than the Sport/Performance food it competes with!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Nulo Freestyle Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Nulo Freestyle Adult Turkey and Sweet Potato is one of **9 dry kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Nulo Freestyle](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Deboned turkey, turkey meal, salmon meal, chickpeas, chicken fat

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Salmon, trout, lamb, cod, small breed, large breed, puppy, senior and more

Price: \$\$\$

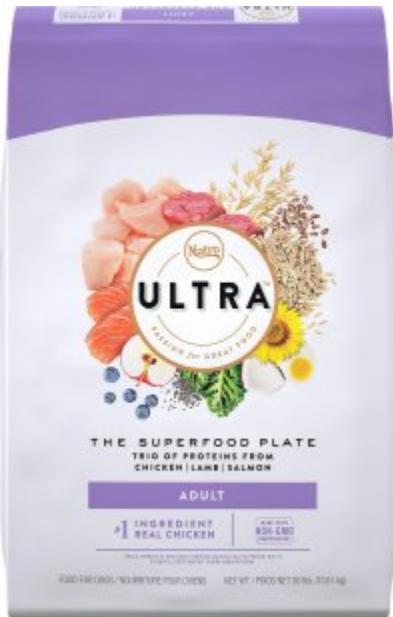
[See all 9 available recipes](#)

This Nulo Freestyle recipe derives the bulk of its meat protein from **turkey**, as well as **turkey and salmon meals**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 37% protein, 20% fat and 35% estimated carbs... which produces a fat-to-protein ratio of about 55%.

A superior, grain-free kibble, offering balanced nutrition... for a wide range of dogs. Recommended with confidence.

Sample buyer review... “My dogs have been on this food for about a year now. After switching around a bit due to food allergies and wanting what was best for the dogs I found Nulo. Their coats have never been shinier and they love love love this food! No more dryness in their coats in the colder winter months just shine healthy coats and happy dogs. There’s a variety of food flavors to choose from and the dogs love them all.”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Nutro Ultra Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Nutro Ultra Adult is one of **9 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Nutro Ultra product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken, chicken meal, whole grain sorghum, whole grain barley, whole grain oats

Type: Grain-inclusive (sorghum, barley, whole grain oats)

Other recipes: Beef, duck, lamb, fish, small breed, large breed, puppy, senior and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 9 available recipes](#)

This Nutro formula derives most of its meat protein from **chicken and chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 24% protein, 15% fat and 53% estimated carbs... which creates a fat-to-protein ratio of about 63%.

Available in a wide range of flavor and recipe options. One of our [top value picks](#).

Sample buyer review... “I have 5 dogs...ranging in different sizes and breeds. This is the ONE food I can get them all to eat without having to buy a bunch of different brands or formulas. Thank you Nutro!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Go! Carnivore Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Go! Carnivore Chicken, Turkey and Duck Adult is one of **5 kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Go! Carnivore product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, turkey meal, salmon meal, de-boned chicken, de-boned turkey

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Salmon, turkey, duck, cod, puppy and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 5 available recipes](#)

This Go! Carnivore formula derives the majority of its animal protein from **chicken, turkey and salmon meals**, as well both chicken and turkey. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 38% protein, 18% fat and 36% estimated carbs... resulting in a fat-to-protein ratio of about 47%.

Free of GMO (genetically modified) ingredients and loaded with meat. A rare find. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “I’ve gone through about 5 or 6 different brands of kibble to find a food that my dog likes and also does well on. I’m absolutely ecstatic to say that Go! Fit + Trim is that food. Great stool, gorgeous coat, clean teeth, boundless energy, you name it. I’m incredibly impressed and so is my best girl. We found our forever food!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Eagle Pack Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: 

Eagle Pack Power Adult is one of **7 dry kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Eagle Pack](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, pork meal, ground brown rice, peas, chicken fat

Type: Grain-inclusive (ground brown rice, dehulled barley)

Other recipes: Puppy, small breed, large and giant breed, lamb, pork and more

Price: \$

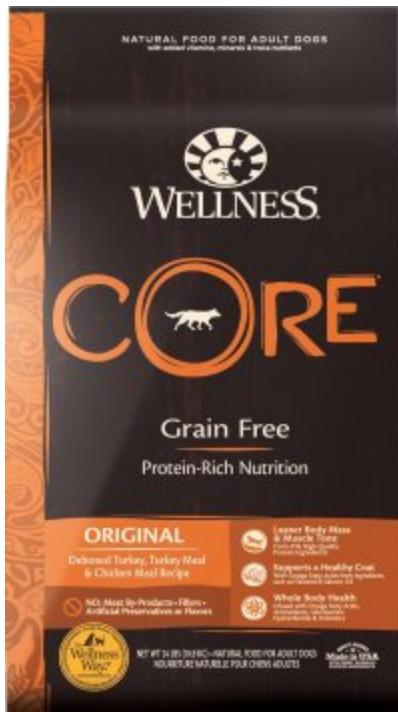
[See all 7 available recipes](#)

This Eagle Pack recipe derives the bulk of its meat protein from **chicken and pork meals**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 33% protein, 21% fat and 38% estimated carbs... yielding a fat-to-protein ratio of about 63%.

A superior kibble at an affordable price. Made by the same trusted company that also produces Wellness. Exceptional value. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “She seems to be shedding much less on Eagle Pack, and her coat condition is much better than it was. She has always been prone to itches and allergies, and she is no longer scratching herself all the time and gnawing the hair off of her paws. I’m happy that this is a food that agrees with her. I wonder why I hadn’t heard of Eagle Pack earlier, as I feel that it is a great food at a much more affordable price than other popular “high-quality” brands.”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



Wellness Core Dry Dog Food

Rating: ★★★★★

Wellness Core Original is one of **12 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Wellness Core product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Deboned turkey, turkey meal, chicken meal, peas, potatoes

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Puppy, large breed, small breed, duck, rabbit, whitefish, senior and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 12 available recipes](#)

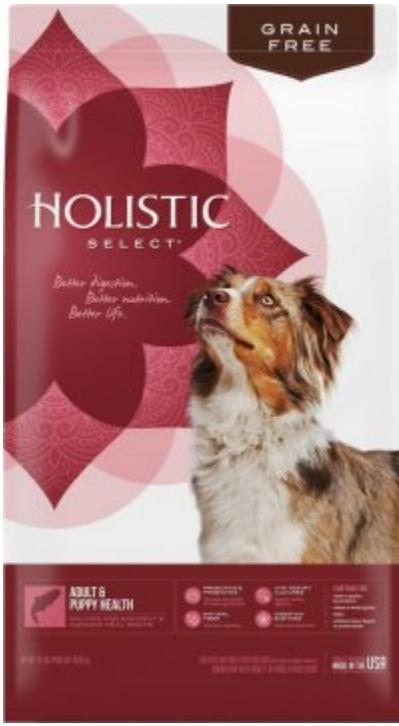
This Wellness Core formula derives the bulk of its animal protein from **fresh turkey**, as well as **turkey and chicken meals**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 38% protein, 18% fat and 36% estimated carbs... producing a fat-to-protein ratio of about 47%.

Core has appeared on our [Best Grain-Free Dog Foods list](#) for more than 10 years. Enthusiastically recommended.

Sample buyer review... “After recently reading an article on health risks for pea proteins in canine foods we decided (after research) that Core was a very good option. Our Bella LOVES IT and it was an easy transition from her old food with no disruption to her digestive system at all which is so common. We are very happy with this brand. It costs a little more than others but our Bella is worth it

!!!”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Holistic Select Grain-Free Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Holistic Select Adult and Puppy Health is one of **11 kibble recipe5s** included in our [review of the Holistic Select Grain-Free](#) product line.

First 5 ingredients: Salmon, anchovy and sardine meal, potatoes, peas, menhaden fish meal

Type: Grain-free

Other recipes: Puppy, small breed, large breed, senior, salmon, turkey, lamb and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 11 available recipes](#)

This Holistic Select formula derives most of its meat protein from **fresh salmon**, as well as **anchovy and sardine meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 32% protein, 16% fat and 44% estimated carbs... producing a fat-to-protein ratio of about 48%.

An exceptional grain-free dog food offering numerous recipe and flavor options. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... "This food was a suggestion by my vet for our small pup who is having food allergy problems. He had lost a strip of hair straight down his back and was also having bowel problems. This new food has already gotten his bowels in great working order and his hair is growing back on his back."

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Dr. Tim's Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Dr. Tim's Pursuit Active Dog Formula is one of **9 dry kibble recipes** included in [our review of the Dr. Tim's product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, brown rice, chicken fat, whole oat groats, dried beet pulp

Type: Grain-inclusive (brown rice, oat groats)

Other recipes: Active formula for sporting dogs, salmon, pork, chicken and more)

Price: \$\$

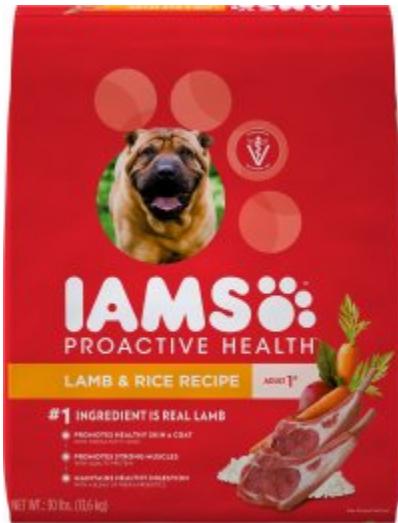
[See all 8 available recipes](#)

This Dr. Tim's product derives the bulk of its animal protein from **chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 33% protein, 22% fat and 36% estimated carbs... creating a fat-to-protein ratio of about 67%.

One of the best-kept secrets in the dry kibble market. And it's one of our top picks, especially for sporting dogs. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “From the moment the box arrived, it was a hit with my Australian Kelpie/Heeler blend. He has done extremely well on this food and it has eliminated his gas/hard stool issues entirely. Though the price is higher than most, the quality is well worth it in order to promote a healthy lifestyle for my boy.”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Iams Proactive Health Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★☆

Iams Lamb and Rice Adult formula is one of **12 dry recipes** included in our [review of the Iams Proactive Health product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Lamb, chicken by-product meal, brewers rice, ground whole grain barley, ground whole grain corn

Type: Grain-inclusive (rice, barley, sorghum)

Other recipes: Large breed, small breed, puppy, chicken, turkey, senior weight management and more

Price: \$

[See all 12 available recipes](#)

Iams Lamb and Rice derives a large portion of its animal protein from **fresh lamb**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 28% protein, 16% fat and 49% estimated carbs... which creates a fat-to-protein ratio of about 56%.

An affordable, “classic” design offering multiple recipe options. A top selection popular with

veterinarians and professional breeders. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “My bulldog has terrible allergies and colitis, and even with taking allergy medication, so many foods worsened her problems. Even grain free limited ingredient dog foods did not help. This red bag lamb and rice iams formula is one of the very few foods she can eat and once I changed her to this food, along with her continued apoquel, her skin allergies are getting better and her hair is growing back, with no colitis flare ups. ”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Annamaet Dry Dog Food](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Annamaet Ultra is one of **8 kibble recipes** included in our [review of the Annamaet product line](#).

First 5 ingredients: Chicken meal, brown rice, chicken fat, whole dry eggs, herring meal

Type: Grain-inclusive (Brown rice, millet)

Other recipes: Puppies, salmon, small breed, senior, weight loss and more

Price: \$\$

[See all 8 available recipes](#)

This Annamaet kibble derives most of its meat protein from **chicken meal**. Our dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 36% protein, 22% fat and 34% estimated carbs... which produces a fat-to-protein ratio of about 63%.

Especially popular with sporting dog professionals. Enthusiastically recommended.

Sample buyer review... "I only started feeding this food a few months ago after extensive research and I couldn't be happier with the results. Beautiful long thick coats, firm small bowel movements, and great accessible energy. I run a boarding business and all my clients who have tried Annamaet have all been very happy with it. As kibble goes, this is one of the very best options on the market."

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)



[Merrick Classic Healthy Grains Dry](#)

Rating: ★★★★★

Real Beef and Brown Rice is one of **13 recipes** included in our [review of the Merrick Classic](#) dry product line.

First 5 ingredients: Deboned beef, pork meal, brown rice, barley, oatmeal

Type: Grain-inclusive (brown rice, barley, oatmeal)

Price: \$\$

Merrick Classic Healthy Grains derives the bulk of its animal protein from fresh deboned beef and

pork meal. Dry matter label analysis reveals the recipe contains 29% protein, 17% fat and 46% estimated carbs... resulting in a fat-to-protein ratio of about 58%.

This fully balanced formula contains zinc amino acid complex and 4 other chelated minerals, superior nutritional supplements typically found in higher quality dog foods. Reasonably priced. Highly recommended.

Sample buyer review... “After adopting animals that had been dropped off at my property I thought it was easy to buy cheap dogfood to keep them all nourished. Bad deal! I was contributing to poor health and obesity. I switched over to Merrick and within weeks noticed a change in weight and energy in all my pets.”

[Read more buyer reviews at Chewy.com](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

[How much dry food should I feed my dog?](#)

[What's the safest way to switch my dog to a new dry food?](#)

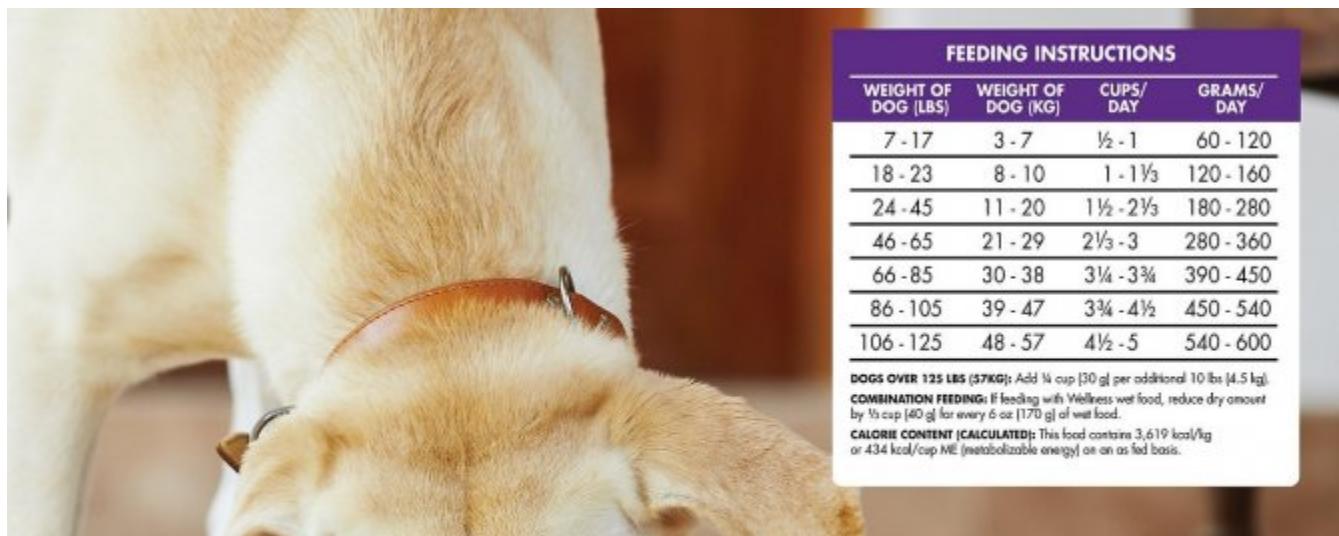
[What risky ingredients should I avoid when buying dry dog food?](#)

[When should I switch my dog to senior dog food?](#)

How much dry food should I feed my dog?

Since it's **impossible to predict** the exact **serving size** that's "perfect" for each dog when feeding a specific brand of food...

It's best to start with the amount of kibble suggested by the **feeding instructions** on the bag... like this example:





Then, over time...

Adjust that serving size **up or down**... to keep your dog at [ideal weight](#).

What's the safest way to switch my dog to a new dry food?

It's best to **transition** to a new dry dog food **gradually**.

Start by mixing about 25% "new" and 75% old food together. Then, slowly increase that amount to a full 100%... over the next 7 days... like this:

Transition Schedule	Old Food	New Food
Days 1 and 2	75%	25%
Days 3 and 4	50%	50%
Days 5 and 6	25%	75%
Day 7	0%	100%

Don't rush the process. Take your time to **lower the risk of stomach upset**.

What risky ingredients should I avoid when buying dry dog food?

Here are 8 of the **most controversial ingredients** found in many popular dry dog foods... and the **health danger** to which each may be linked:

Ingredient	Type	Linked To
BHA	Preservative	Cancer
BHT	Preservative	Cancer
TBHQ	Preservative	Cancer
Ethoxyquin	Preservative	Liver pigmentation
Menadione	Synthetic vitamin	Hemolytic anemia
Artificial dyes	Colorant	Cancer
Propylene glycol	Moisturizer	Heinz body anemia
Generic "meat"	Unknown source	Food allergies

To be sure you **never** unknowingly feed YOUR dog a dry kibble that contains any of these **high-risk ingredients**... be sure to **favor** recipes rated **4 stars or higher** by The Dog Food Advisor.

When should I switch my dog to senior dog food?

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association...¹

“...small dogs are generally considered senior at **7 years of age**. Larger breed dogs tend to have shorter life spans... and are often considered senior when they are **5 to 6 years of age**.”

If your dog is healthy and eating a quality, balanced diet, you may not need to switch your pet to a senior food.

However...

Since some older dogs can **benefit** from a diet designed for seniors, you may wish to visit [The Dog Food Advisor's Top 10 Senior Dog Foods](#) page... to see a list of our most **recommended** brands.

A Final Word

The Dog Food Advisor does not accept money, gifts, samples or other incentives in exchange for special consideration in preparing our reviews.

However, we do receive a referral fee from online retailers (like Chewy or Amazon) and from sellers of perishable pet food when readers click over to their websites from ours. This helps cover the cost of operation of our free blog. Thanks for your support.

For more information, please visit our [Disclaimer and Disclosure](#) page.

References