

# Dog vs. Cat Feeding Tips

Feeding Factor	Dogs 	Cats 
<b>Overall Approach</b>	Thrive on structure, routine, and clear expectations	Prefer consistency with flexibility and autonomy
<b>Meal Schedule</b>	Do best with scheduled meals (1–2 per day)	Often prefer smaller, more frequent meals
<b>Free-Feeding</b>	Can lead to overeating and poor habits	Common, but should be monitored carefully
<b>Treat Sensitivity</b>	Treats add up fast — easy to overdo	Less treat-driven, but still calorie-sensitive
<b>Hydration Needs</b>	Generally drink water willingly	Often under-drink; hydration needs extra attention
<b>Wet vs. Dry Food</b>	Both can work depending on lifestyle	Wet food often beneficial for hydration
<b>Response to Change</b>	Usually adaptable with guidance	Sensitive to sudden changes in food or routine
<b>Picky Eating</b>	Often learned behavior	Often stress- or environment-related
<b>Food Motivation</b>	High — food is a major training tool	Variable — not all cats are food-motivated
<b>Weight Gain Risk</b>	High if portions aren't adjusted	Subtle and easy to miss without monitoring
<b>Feeding Environment</b>	Social, interactive mealtime	Quiet, low-stress feeding space preferred
<b>Best Feeding Mindset</b>	"Structure keeps me calm."	"Consistency keeps me comfortable."