



SPECIALIZING IN RAW
FOOD DIET FOR

CATS

BUDDIES NATURAL PET FOOD LTD.
RAW FOOD GUIDE

For Kittens, Adults, & Seniors.

BACK TO BASICS

www.buddiesnaturalpetfood.ca

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At Buddies Natural Pet Food, we are dedicated to helping your cat achieve optimum health. We realize that switching to, and feeding, a raw diet can be a touchy subject with some people. **You are not alone!** Buddies is here to provide you with the educated answers needed to help you switch to a healthy lifestyle choice for your cat. ***Buddies wants to make raw feeding simple and easy to do.*** We are happy to give you positive support to get you on your way!

Why Raw?

 A raw, fresh diet is biologically/species appropriate for your cat. Cats are Carnivores; there are different types of carnivores out there, cats fall into the Obligatory Carnivore category. This means they need meat, organs, and bone to survive and thrive. They are not able to get any nutrition from plant matter and carbohydrates.



 Cats digestive tracts are ideal for digesting meat. While omnivores and herbivores have *long* digestive tracts with a lower stomach acidity to ferment their food, carnivores have short digestive tracts and high stomach acidity to break down and pass raw meat and bone quickly and safely.

 Chronic diseases can be directly linked to feeding processed foods to our cats as it destroys and alters enzymes, amino acids, vitamins and minerals. Cats are one of evolution's most successful predators. They have never needed to develop the ability to metabolize and synthesize nutrients from plant matter. Not only are they unable to utilize grains and carbohydrates but these can actually cause them harm. Grains change the cat's naturally acidic PH., cause dental disease and affect their digestive and urinary tracts. Cats naturally do not drink a lot of water due to the high moisture content in their natural diet: raw prey. Processed food, due to the high carbohydrate content, causes further dehydration.

Step 1: Transitioning to a Raw, Fresh diet!

Transitioning an adult or senior cat onto raw can be a little tricky sometimes. Cat's are stubborn and independent, and in many cases very opposed to change...especially in their diet.

If you have a kitten switch that little one straight away, cold turkey, onto raw.

With Adult and Senior cats there's a little more to it...

- 1) Transition your cat to being fed twice a day rather than free feeding (having a bowl of kibble out for your cat to help themselves whenever they'd like).
- 2) Transition your cat onto 100% canned food from kibble before introducing raw.
- 3) Mix the raw into the canned food. At first with more canned than raw and slowly reverse the ratio.



Remember! Cats can be apprehensive to new foods, this is normal! Transitioning a cat takes time and patience, and while it can be frustrating just keep reminding yourself of all the benefits and keep at it!

Step 2: How much do I feed?



An average cat should be eating 2% - 3% of their body weight, whereas active cats can eat between 4% - 6%. Kittens can eat up to 8% of their body weight! Unlike dogs, cats are generally very good at self regulating. Your cat will know when it's full! Give your cat it's food and allow them 15 minutes or so to eat.

Whatever they leave refrigerate it for their next meal!

For example, when feeding an adult cat the average 2.5% of their body weight this is what it should look like...

An up to **5LB** cat can be fed up to **1/8 lb** (which is half of one of our quarter cut pieces)

A **6 - 10LB** cat can be fed up to **1/4 lb** (which is one of our quarter cut pieces)

A **11 - 16LB** cat can be fed up to **1/3 lb** (which is approximately one and a half of our quarter cut pieces)

- ◆ **INCREASE** for active and growing cats
- ◆ **DECREASE** for non-active and senior cats
- ◆ **USE YOUR JUDGEMENT.** You know your cat best!

During the first few weeks of raw not only will you notice a healthier, happier cat but you may see signs of what we call “**the detox**”. This is simply your cats body trying to push out the preservatives, sugars, and other toxins which they have stored in their body from eating a processed diet. Just as if you were to go from a highly processed diet to a fresh diet yourself. This is completely normal and all a part of the healing process.

Some signs that your cat is detoxing are...

Runny/Tearing Eyes

Excess Shedding

Increased “kitty cat” smell

Upset Stomach

Itchy Skin/Paws

Bad Breath

If your cat is showing these symptoms keep an eye on them. If they persist for more than a month or so consider contacting your veterinarian. However in almost all cases these do pass! One step back before one hundred steps forward!

What else do I need to know?

◆ **What about Taurine!?**

While dogs produce some levels cats do not; they rely solely on their food. Not enough taurine in their diet can result in heart problems, ocular issues, and more. Red meat, organ meat (heart in particular), and most shellfish are ideal ways to ensure your cat is getting enough taurine in their diet! Some more benefits include: lowering high blood pressure and cholesterol, and maintaining urinary tract health!



◆ **Bones in their food will hurt my cat! Especially poultry!**

Raw bones are perfectly safe for your cat to ingest. Cooked and smoked/dehydrated bones have the tendency to splinter as the process they must go through removes moisture from the bones making it brittle and hard. Raw bones and necks, especially poultry, are soft and easy for your cat to digest. Remember their stomach has a low PH perfect for breaking down bones and bacteria.

◆ **Won't my cat get sick from eating Raw Meat?**

The likely hood that your cat will get sick is next to none. This is because Fluffy and Garfield are specifically designed to digest raw meat, organs, and bone! A carnivores stomach is 3 times as acidic as a humans stomach. This level of acidity kills most pathogens and bacteria. If for some reason something survives this your carnivores digestive system works quickly and short, expelling everything as waste in a matter of hours.

Thank you for learning about Raw Feeding with Buddies Natural Pet Food! Please don't hesitate to ask our Buddies Staff any further questions! You can reach us in person at our Retail locations (see back page), via email at buddiesnaturalpetfood@gmail.com, or by phone (see back page)!

WHERE TO FIND BUDDIES NATURAL PET FOOD?!

Victoria

Clayton Critters
3516 Quadra Street
Victoria BC
1-778-265-7387

Growlies

2871 Jacklin Road
Victoria BC
250-391-4475

Paw Space

3838 A Cadboro Bay Road
Victoria BC
1-250-589-4721

Market On Millstream

#125-2401C Millstream
Road
Victoria BC
250-391-1110

Gulf Islands

Whiskers Pet Store

128 Lower Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island BC
250-537-1838

Saturna General Store

101 Narvaez Bay Road
Saturna Island BC
250-539-2936

Mid Island

Animal Ark
3020 3rd Avenue
Port Alberi BC
778-421-3698

Bosleys

280 Island Hwy E
Parksville BC
250-248-2673

Qualicum Pet Foods

#104-166 West First Avenue
Qualicum Beach BC
250-752-2797

Top Shelf Feeds

2800 Roberts Road
Duncan BC
250-746-5101

Woofles Barking Boutique

Unit E 427 Fitzwilliam Street
Nanaimo BC
250-591-1013

North Vancouver Island

Dogwood Pet Mart

223 Dogwood Street
Campbell River BC
250-287-7405

Fairy Dog Mother

Independent Distributor
Campbell River
Call ahead to place order
250-923-0584

Woofys Pet Foods

2056A South Island Hwy
Campbell River BC
250-923-5881

Woofys Pet Foods

2400 Cliffe Ave
Courtenay BC
250-338-0455

Lucky Pets Raw Food

2250 Beach Drive
Port McNeil, BC
Tel: 1-250-923-0584

Vancouver

True Carnivores

5961 West Boulevard
Vancouver BC
604-267-3647

Cascadia Natural Pet Supply

4512 Main Street
Vancouver, BC
Tel: 1-604-704-8647

Mainland

Monashee Pets

Vernon BC
Independent Distributer
Call ahead to place order
1-250-891-3378

Sunshine Pet Supplies

#119-3011 Louie Drive
Kelowna BC
1-250-707-3303

The Wholesome Hound

2200- 14th Ave
Castlegar BC
250-304-2663

4 Paws Pure

594 Douglas St
Prince George, BC
1-877-569-1444

PRODUCTION PLANT

5980 Trans Canada HWY
Duncan, B.C.

Tel: 250 -746 -3666 Fax: 250 -746 -3690
Email: buddiesduncan@telus.net

DUNCAN RETAIL

5980 Trans Canada HWY
Duncan, B.C.
Tel: 250 -746 -3683
buddiesduncanretail@telus.net

VICTORIA RETAIL

2140 C Keating X Road
Saanichton, B.C.
Tel: 250 -652 -2411
info@buddiesnaturalpetfood.ca