

How Is Your Dog's Appetite?

Take this short survey to see if it's something to discuss with your veterinarian.

Gradual or sudden loss of appetite may be a sign that your dog is sick. Over time, not eating could potentially lead to weight loss and muscle weakness for your dog. Prolonged decrease or loss of appetite can become as harmful as the possible underlying condition.

The following information is provided as a guide for rating your dog's appetite. Please answer each question as it best describes your dog.



Write the number for the answer that best describes your dog in the space provided.

Willingness to eat:

- 1 Always have to coax to eat or refuses food
- 2 Often have to coax to eat
- 3 Sometimes have to coax to eat
- 4 Never have to coax to eat
- 5 Never coax as dog always eats with enthusiasm

Anticipating meal time:

- 1 Avoids or hides when food bowl is filled
- 2 Little interest in meal time
- 3 Comes to eat when called
- 4 Anticipates meal time
- 5 Runs to food bowl

Hunger/begging behavior:

- 1 Never seeks food, never begs
- 2 Rarely seeks or begs for food
- 3 Sometimes seeks or begs for food when sees, smells, or hears food
- 4 Always seeks food when sees, smells, or hears food
- 5 Actively seeks food even when your pet does not see, smell, or hear food

When food is placed in front of dog:

- 1 Avoids or refuses food
- 2 Slow to eat food
- 3 Eats food offered in reasonable time
- 4 Eats food offered quickly
- 5 Eats food offered rapidly, with enthusiasm

Your dog:

- 1 Eats no food without being force fed
- 2 Eats half or less of food offered
- 3 Eats most food offered
- 4 Eats all food offered
- 5 Eats all food offered and begs for more

Add to get your dog's total score:

If your dog's score is 15 or less, the recommendation from veterinary Internal Medicine consultants is that you should discuss the results with your veterinarian.