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How We Feed Our Pugs: Treats

We get asked often, “What kind of treats should I give my pug?” Our answer is usually, “None.” Instead of buying treats, here are the practices that we have found to be the most helpful when finding ways to treat our pugs:

Providing treats can make it easy for pugs to quickly become overweight or obese. An overweight or obese pug is an unhealthy pug. Refer to our video *Pugs 101: Pug Feeding Tips* at <https://youtu.be/URvb9WAS8wo> for information on feeding pugs for optimum health as well as charts and visuals about how to help identify if your pug’s body is at ideal weight for its build, activity, and lifestyle.

Rather than purchasing specific types of treats, we put our dog’s morning ration of dry kibble in a Ziploc baggie, and “treat” our dog throughout a training session or during the day with a couple of pieces of their food. This way, the dog feels like it’s being treated, and we keep the calories in check.

Our pugs eat *Fromm Four Star Game Bird Adult Dry Dog Food*.

We avoid feeding our dogs any types of treats or “cookies”. When someone really feels the need to give their dog treats, we recommend only the following:

- *(Gimborn/Stewart) Pro-Treat 100% Freeze-Dried Liver Treats.*
- *Great Bait Liver Treats.* (Order by calling 559-456-8461)

We only feed canned foods to sick, pregnant, or nursing dogs, to administer medicines or for very special occasions—like holidays. Even then, we provide only about a tablespoon worth of canned food. We only recommend one type:

- *Newman's Own Organic Beef & Liver*
- *Newman's Own Organic Liver*

We always avoid feeding our pugs ANY table scraps, and any non-commercially prepared raw meat of any kind. These foods are potentially dangerous for dogs. Raw meat can carry pathogens and bacteria that can harm or even kill dogs. On the other hand, Stella & Chewy's website explains how their freeze-dried raw products undergo a High Pressure Processing (HPP) that is 100% natural and recognized by the FDA and USDA as an anti-pathogen treatment and is a key feature in the Stella & Chewy's SecureByNature® food safety process.

The following is our No Feed List, which means we avoid feeding all of these products to our pugs:

- **No Rawhide.**
- **No Pig's, cow's, or bull's hooves.**
- **No animal bones of any kind.**
- **No plastic bones meant for chewing/controlling bad breath.**

- No cornmeal-based bones meant for chewing/controlling bad breath.
- No Pig's ears.
- No products containing wheat, corn, or soy.
- No salmon (pugs can have deadly allergic reactions to it).

If we had a dollar for every time we've heard how a dog choked to death or how a piece of one of these items got lodged in or poked through a dog's intestines, we'd be very, very rich.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about our process.

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