

Genius Dog Newsletter

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." Roger Caras

Basic Nutrition

By Sue Tasa

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The foods we feed our dogs contain ingredients that in turn contain nutrition vital to their good health. Dogs need protein to support structural components like hair, teeth, skin and bones. Protein can be found in meats (chicken, beef, fish, etc), eggs, soy and gluten. Carbohydrates, like fruits, vegetables and grains, provide our dogs with calories for energy and fiber for healthy digestion. Fats are important since they make a food tasty, give our dogs' shiny skin and coat and are a concentrated source of energy. Minerals and vitamins have many functions and come from the ingredients in the food but are most often included as a vitamin/mineral premix. It's easy to overlook, but water is the most important nutrient of all. It stands to reason that there's a lot more in cans and raw than there is in kibble.

Let's also talk about some other, currently popular categories of ingredients, specifically antioxidants, pre and probiotics, omega fatty acids and glucosamine and chondroitin. Antioxidants, found in highest concentrations in dark pigmented fruits and vegetables, help our dogs fight off the deleterious affects of free radicals (those nasty elements that cause aging, cancer and an entire host of rotten things!). They also naturally preserve the fat in commercial pet foods preventing rancidity which could potentially sicken (or worse) our pets. Prebiotics are found in fibrous foods like chicory root and act as food for probiotics. Probiotics are bacteria (yes, you read that correctly) that actually help your dog to better digest his food. The diarrhea that often accompanies a course of

antibiotics is due to the fact that the antibiotics killed both the harmful and the good bacteria (probiotics) making it difficult for your dog to properly and thoroughly digest their food. Hence, the diarrhea. Omega fatty acids, specifically omega 3 and 6, help your dog to have a shiny, healthy skin and coat, minimize shedding, and promote cardiovascular and immune health. The benefits of omega fatty acids shown in studies cannot be understated. They are found in their highest concentrations in cold water fish oils and flax. Glucosamine and chondroitin, found in cartilage and a host of other ingredients, help to replace joint tissue otherwise destroyed by free radicals.



About the author...

The above article on basic nutrition and digestion is the first in a series of articles designed to shed some light on the often confusing world of pet food. The author, a graduate of UC Davis, has studied pet nutrition for more than 25 years. She is the Director of Education for Pet Food Express and a product development consultant for Emerald Pet, a manufacturer dedicated to producing healthy pet products.

Please let us know what topics interest you. We look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.

Genius Dog Training

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We're on the Web!

www.GeniusDogTraining.com



My name is Carmen.

I was staying here while my owner had surgery. I was having fun but I was really looking forward to her coming to pick me up and take me home.....But my owner did not make it. I now need a new home with someone to love and take care of me.

I am a special needs pet.. I am very shy with strangers but when I know someone I love them. I love to play with the other pets here. Could you help me?

I am going to miss my owner very, very much and I really need someone to love.

If you or someone you know would be interested in helping Carmen find a home please let the front desk know. Thanks Petville Staff

If you can help find Carmen a home, please contact the staff at Pet Ville Pet Hotel in San Marcos at (760) 745-2759.

Genius Dog Training is independently owned and operated.



Wylie's Corner

I'm excited to tell you about our new online store that will be opening early next year! We're committed to offering our clients and customers quality pet products at reasonable prices.

As the "Apprentice," one of Sydney's duties is to sniff through all the brochures we get in and find some treats, toys, training equipment, etc. that you and your pet might like.



Of course, as CEO (Canine Executive Officer) of **Genius Dog Training**, I have the awesome responsibility to do all the product testing myself.



It's a ruff job, but some dog has to do it!

By the way, if there is a product that you would like to see us carry, just let us know and I'll have Sydney track it down.

Wishing Everyone a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!



"I think I prefer the cowboy hat from Halloween!"

*"The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect that of **Genius Dog Training**." – Wylie, CEO*