



A word about Food...

🐾 Corn is not essential to a dog's diet. Lower quality dog foods use corn as the first ingredient in their products because it is less expensive than meat. The corn, in this case, acts as a filler rather than as a nutrient because whole corn only contains 8 percent protein. The term "corn" or even "yellow corn" is not descriptive of an actual food ingredient. Corn must be described as corn bran, corn gluten, or corn gluten meal to meet the standards of the Association of American Feed Control Officials.

🐾 Processed corn is a common culprit in food allergies that affect dogs. Dogs with a sensitivity to corn may gnaw at their paws or scratch excessively at themselves. Skin infections and hot spots -- moist sores with hair loss -- may develop. Dogs with food allergies may even cause a dog to defecate twice as much as dogs that do not have allergies. Dogs may even experience ear infections and yeast infections.

🐾 Myth: Healthy dog foods are much more expensive than the cheap stuff.

You can find great food at Costco, whose Kirkland house brand contains plenty of protein and no corn fillers. Meat, vegetables, rice and yeast are all important ingredients in pet food. You will notice the difference in their health, energy and coat when they are fed a good diet. We often will mix dog food with rice (which parasites can not digest) and eggs, which benefit their coat. Purina in recent years has also started releasing food brand that are corn free, but still loaded up with chemicals. Iams makes some great high-end food that is not that much more expensive than regular food.

