



# All about PetCare

## ***High Protein/ Low Carbohydrate Diets***

Cats are true carnivores as opposed to their canine counterparts who are omnivores. A true carnivore requires meat in their diet and have a higher metabolic need for protein in their diets. As a general rule, dry or kibbled cat foods tend to be higher in carbohydrates and lower in protein. Alternatively, canned cat foods tend to be higher in protein and lower in carbohydrates when contrasted with dry foods. A diet with a higher protein satisfies a cat's hunger for longer periods.

## ***How Canned Food Benefits Your Cat***

Some veterinarians believe that all cats should consume a canned food all the time. This belief is founded on the notion that canned food more closely mimics what the ancestral cat used to hunt (rodents and birds) as canned food is approximately 80% moisture. The increased water consumption in the canned diet produces a more dilute urine in the cat. Dilute urine promotes urinary tract health as microscopic crystals and precipitates are more likely to be flushed out. A more concentrated urine allows crystals and precipitates to collide more frequently thus forming larger crystals and sediment until they eventually come into contact with each other more often, having the coalesce together, forming larger and larger crystals, until eventually they become bladder "stones".

## ***Canned Diet Selection***

There are many canned cat food manufacturers. As you review the ingredients, please pay particular attention to the percentage of carbohydrates, the lower the better. It is recommended that the ratio be high in protein and low in carbohydrates (less than 10% in carbohydrates). For a list of potential diets to feed your cat, you may visit [which](#) has nutritional analysis.

As you consider different protein sources, be aware that chicken, beef, liver, or turkey based diets are preferable for daily consumption. Whereas, diets based in fish, tuna or salmon should be considered for use more sparingly due to concerns with mercury contamination, such as treats or several times a week at most.

## ***What if my Cat Refuses Canned Food?***

In the unusual situation that your cat will not eat canned food, many veterinarians would recommend a dry kibble with a high protein/low carbohydrate ratio – ideally a grain free diet. For instance, EVO has a Herring and Salmon Dry Food as well as a Turkey & Chicken formula which contains 50% protein and 10% carbohydrates.