



# HUMAN GRADE VS. PET GRADE INGREDIENTS IN YOUR PET'S FOOD

Starting with human-grade ingredients results in superior food for your dog or cat.

## Q. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE INGREDIENTS USED IN HUMAN FOODS AND THOSE USED IN PET FOODS?

A. Pet foods are the traditional dumping grounds for the leftovers of human food manufacturing. Ingredients destined for human food products have to pass minimum standards of quality and safety imposed by the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture). In the big business of multinational food companies, nothing is wasted. Any indigestible wastes, condemned parts, or other by-products deemed unfit for human consumption are then



Dublin thrives on human-grade food

used for pet food, where the quality and safety of ingredients are unregulated. This applies to grocery store brands and mass marketed specialty brands such as Science Diet and Hill's Prescription Diet (owned by Colgate Palmolive), Iams and Eukanuba (Proctor & Gamble), Nature's Recipe (Heinz), and Ralston Purina.

Fortunately, there are conscientious pet food companies that are not owned by large conglomerates that go to great lengths to make pet foods containing only human quality ingredients.

## Q. WHAT KIND OF MEATS ARE USED IN MASS MARKETED PET FOODS?

A. There are two sources of supply for "pet-grade" meats and poultry. One source is federally-inspected USDA meat packing plants, where the carcasses that fail inspection due to damage, disease, or cancerous tumors are separated for shipping to the pet food factory. The

other source is rendering plants, where 4D animals (dead, dying, diseased, or disabled) are rendered into a dry crumbly meal and used for livestock feed, fertilizer, and pet food ingredients. Rendering plants also process road kill and euthanized zoo animals and pets from shelters and veterinary clinics.

## Q. WHAT ABOUT GRAINS IN PET FOODS?

A. Name brand pet foods utilize the grain waste products, too. After the more valuable starches and oils have been extracted, often by chemical processes, the hulls and remnants are turned into ground corn, corn gluten meal, brewer's rice, ground wheat, and various flours. These ingredients have almost no nutritional value, and are merely fillers. Sometimes whole grains are used that have been deemed unfit for humans because of mold, too many pesticides, or improper storage.

## Q. HOW ABOUT FATS AND OILS IN PET FOODS?

A. Fats are an expensive and nutritionally important part of a pet's diet. Many manufacturers use "blended fats" from multiple sources, including (often rancid) recycled restaurant grease, that are stabilized with powerful chemical preservatives. Both the toxins formed in previously cooked fats and the preservatives used to stabilize them have been linked to cancer.



Giovanni sticks with human-grade food

## Q. WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

A. All of the food sold at All The Best Pet Care uses the highest-quality ingredients. Stop in and ask us for a recommendation for your dog or cat's particular needs.



The Best Food, Treats & Toys for Dogs and Cats

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