

ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS?



WHY SWITCH FOOD GRADUALLY?

The digestive system is filled with enzymes and microbes which digest the ingredients in a pet's food. The population has developed to break down the specific nutrients in the food they are usually fed, and takes time to adjust to changes in ingredients or nutrient balance within the diet. This can take days and sometimes weeks, so a sudden change can cause digestion of food to be affected, resulting in diarrhoea or poor stool quality and an increase in volume of stools produced.

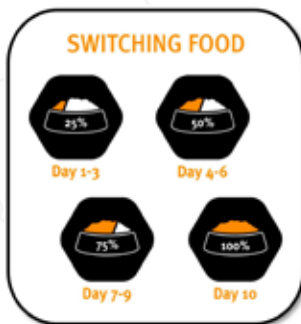
HOW CAN WE AVOID TUMMY UPSETS?

Switching foods over 7-10 days allows time for the gut to adjust. Introduction of the new food should be done when the pet is not experiencing stress or nausea, and in the home environment. Introduction of food when at the vet practice can lead to food aversions when the pet is home. You may find **PURINA® PRO PLAN® Fortiflora** helpful during the transition. This is a probiotic supplement for dogs and cats of all ages, including puppies and kittens. It contains live "friendly" bacteria that help promote intestinal health and balance, and help support a healthy immune system. Each sachet contains guaranteed levels of the probiotic. It is very tasty and can easily be sprinkled on the food. This means it can both help to reduce the likelihood of poor stool quality during a diet transition and help with palatability of the new food.

ARE THERE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DOGS AND CATS IN THE WAY WE INTRODUCE A NEW FOOD?

DOGS: Usually, the new food can be added to the same bowl as the old food. This should be mixed in, with a gradual increase in the amount of new food and reduction in the amount of the old food within the same bowl.

CATS: Cats are particularly sensitive to changes in their diet, and to the environment in which the diet is introduced; ensuring a quiet, non-stressful setting is especially important to them. Most cats prefer two separate bowls, one with the old food in and one with the new food. Gradually reduce the amount of old food in the bowl with time, and increase the amount of new food in the second bowl.



ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS TO THE 'GRADUAL SWITCH' ADVICE?

In cases of diarrhoea (short or longer term in duration), a rapid changeover to a new food is often advised. Your vet may also recommend a faster or slower, transition than 7-10 days for some other medical conditions.

 **PURINA**
PRO PLAN

Committed to providing you with palatable, highly effective and science-based nutritional solutions for every cat and dog that you might see in your clinic.

To find out more about how our nutritional solutions can make a difference to your patients, please call your **PURINA®** representative.

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