

HOW TO GRADE YOUR DOG'S FOOD			
	START WITH A GRADE OF 100	ADD	SUBTRACT
1	For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points		
2	For every non-specific animal source (I.e. meat/poultry meal or fat), subtract 10 points		
3	If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points		
4	For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points		
5	If the same grain ingredient is used 2 or more times in the first 5 ingredients (i.e. ground brown rice, brewers rice, rice flour) subtract 5 points		
6	If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points		
7	If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points		
8	If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points		
9	If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 more points		
10	If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points		
11	If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points		
12	If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points		
13	If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points		
14	If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to beef), subtract 1 point		
15	If it contains salt, subtract 1 point		

EXTRA CREDIT

1	If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points		
2	If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points		
3	If the food is baked and not extruded, add 5 points		
4	If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points		
5	If the food contains fruit, add 3 points		
6	If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points		
7	If the animal sources are hormone-free and anti-biotic free, add 2 points		
8	If the food contains barley, add 2 points		
9	If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds) add 2 points		
9	If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point		
9	If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point		
10	For every different specific animal protein source (other than the 1 st one; count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source, but "chicken" and "any other meat source" as 2 different sources), add 1 point		
11	If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point		
12	If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free, add 1 point		

SCORE 94-100=A 86-93=B 78-85=C 70-77=D 69 and below=F

TOTAL			
This exercise is intended only as a guide for consumer ingredient awareness.			