



OMHS Pet Food Bank

Transitioning your Pet to a New Pet Food

Introducing your dog or cat to a new food should be done slowly to avoid any potential stomach upsets. Follow our simple, seven-day guide help your pets transition to their new food.

How to change your pet's food – make the transition gradually

If you are switching your pet's food, we recommend a gradual transition. By slowly easing your pet onto their new food, you will help avoid stomach upsets. This process can take about a week, and it is always a good idea to monitor your pet to make sure it is going well.

For most cats and dogs, a good diet transition will look like this:

- Day 1: 25% new diet and 75% old diet.
- Day 3: 50% new diet and 50% old diet.
- Day 5: 75% new diet and 25% old diet.
- Day 7: 100% new diet.

Some cats or dogs with sensitive stomachs, food allergies, or other gastrointestinal diseases may need an even longer transition period.

If you have transitioned gradually and your pet is still experiencing stomach upset, (diarrhea, throwing up, lack of appetite, etc.) it is best to consult with your veterinarian. In some cases, it may be necessary to choose a different diet.

