

■ Dog Food Ingredient Scorecard ■

A Simple Guide for Evaluating Your Dog's Food

Start with **100 points**. Adjust the score based on the ingredients listed on the dog food label.

<i>Points to Subtract</i>	<i>Points to Add</i>
• For every listing of by-product , subtract 10 points	• If any meat sources are organic, add 5 points
• For every non-specific animal source ('meat' or 'poultry' meat, meal or fat), subtract 10 points	• If the food is endorsed by a breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points
• If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points	• If the food is baked rather than extruded, add 5 points
• For every grain 'mill run' or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points	• If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
• If the same grain ingredient appears multiple times in the first five ingredients, subtract 5 points	• If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
• If protein sources are not meat meal and there are fewer than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points	• If the food contains vegetables (not corn or grains), add 3 points
• If it contains artificial colorants, subtract 3 points	• If animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
• If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points	• If the food contains barley, add 2 points
• If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 additional points	• If the food contains flax seed oil, add 2 points
• If the food contains animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points	• If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
• If lamb is the only animal protein source, subtract 2 points	• If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
• If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points	• For every additional specific animal protein source, add 1 point
• If it contains wheat, subtract 2 points (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to wheat)	• If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
• If it contains beef, subtract 1 point (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to beef)	• If vegetables are pesticide-free, add 1 point
• If it contains salt, subtract 1 point	

■ Final Grade Scale ■

Final Score	Grade
94 – 100+	A
86 – 93	B
78 – 85	C
70 – 77	D
69 or below	F

Tip: Bring this scorecard when comparing dog foods at the store!

Reproduced from the Hobbs list

The "Hobbs List" is not an official veterinary or regulatory document.

****This is a GENERAL rating system only! Individual dogs may do better on a lower rated food. Only you and your veterinarian can decide what's best for YOUR dog****