

This is a service of www.banffyhaus.com to Owners of German Shepherd Puppies and or German Shepherd Breeders. *No warranties are express or implied below. This is for informational purposes only.

Feeding Rules: THE BIG TEN

1. Don't give in between snacks except formal training treats when training. Lean is better. Why do we Americans think a fat dog is a happy dog. Did you know we are one of the most obese nations? Is it that misery loves company? It is just downright irresponsible, unhealthy, bad for hips and cruel to your German shepherd.

2. Find the diet that is right for them: Don't use a raw for a German shepherd puppy. Wait until they are at least 1 year old. If you are buying a puppy from us, we will be feeding Royal Canin Maxi puppy until 15 months, and then you can switch to German Shepherd 24 max. Please do not switch the brand food for a puppy you receive from us as it can cause stomach upset and lead to problems. If you are going to switch, wait a few months. However, it is our experience that Royal Canin works extremely well for this breed.

3. Don't skimp on food. Get the best that fits their digestion. Shepherds have very sensitive digestive systems. Some super premiums have great ingredients but are too rich for some shepherds.

4. Feed at least twice a day and give lots of water. Feeding one big meal may be associated with bloat or other problems that can be fatal.

5. Use an elevated bowl. Then they have less chance of shoulder and neck problems and it aids in proper digestion. They won't be all contorted bending down to eat.

6. If you have a good food, and the dog is normal, you don't need supplements. And don't give calcium supplements to a puppy unless under careful supervision of your vet. It can lead to joint laxity and possibly set the stage for future joint problems.

7. If you are changing food do it over a two-week period, mixing in more and more of the new until it is all new.

8. Keep it simple. You don't need fancy. You don't need to add new things, flavor enhancers, extra treats, This can end up making things worse and creating a finicky dog.

9. Do not free feed. This is so bad in terms of health and habits. It can lead to obesity and makes it harder to schedule potty breaks leading to mistakes.

10. Let them have three minutes to eat and then put it away and don't feed until the next meal. A dog will not starve itself intentionally. Also, they need to get into your life schedule. If not, you will be frustrated watching the clock and late for a job or date. It doesn't have to be that way. All my dogs eat all their food the minute it is put down. These are healthy feeding habits for German Shepherd puppies and dogs.