

Lexy's Danes Puppy-Dog Feeding Guidelines

Your Dane is currently eating Kent Feeds [Native Level 1](#) Adult Dog Food Formula



NEVER FEED YOUR GREAT DANE ANY TYPE OF PUPPY DOG FOOD OR TABLE SCRAPS.

Neither have the proper nutrition levels to help your Dane grow slowly and evenly.

- If changing their food: do it gradually over 1 – 2 week's time so they do not get an upset tummy and/or diarrhea.
- It is very important that Danes be fed multiple times per day, at least twice a day, as this will reduce the incidence of bloat and torsion.
- Raise their food and water dish as they grow. (It should be at least 16 inches high.)
- Be sure that the dog has not exercised for at least 30 minutes before eating and do not exercise him for 1 – 2 hours after eating. This will make sure his stomach is settled during the critical time around his meal during which he is very susceptible to bloat.
- Free feeding is an alternative to feeding schedules, but can result in problems. We free feed our older puppies – dogs because none of our babies are over eaters, they have access to a dog door 24 – 7 and they normally don't eat while we are not at home. Some dogs will eat whatever you leave out, so that destroys the purpose of free feeding. Other dogs will have house soiling problems.

When trying to decide which commercial dog food is appropriate for PROPER DANE growth, there are very specific things you must look for.

The 10 most essential items to look for when selecting an adult formula dog food for your puppy, which is suitable for proper growth for the giant breeds, are as follows in order of importance from my research and experience:

1. First ingredients must be multiple Meats or Meat Meals. (Chicken, Turkey, Beef, Fish, etc.) NOT YELLOW CORN or WHEAT. If ground corn meal is further down the line on the ingredients list that is ok but try to stay away from wheat because your Dane may be or become allergic to it.
2. Moderate calories range (320 –365 kCals per cup) If the puppy is active, a higher calorie count might be beneficial but not to exceed 475
3. Protein range of 21% - 26% maximum
4. Fat range 12% - 16% maximum
5. Calcium—no more than 1.5%
6. Glucosamine & Chondroitin (This can be supplement with Cosequin DS)
7. Ingredients listed as human grade, human edible or organic and naturally preserved.
8. Chelated or sequestered minerals.
9. Balanced Omega 6:3 fatty acids.
10. Probiotics/Digestive enzymes, but can be supplemented with [NZYMES](#) if it's not in the food already.

Watch puppy carefully when eating. If pup is eating too fast:

- Pull him/her away from food for a couple of minutes and then let the pup go back to eating
- Put a good size rubber ball or another good sized toy that the puppy would have to work around so he will eat slower.
- Give a little bit every couple of minutes until they eat all their food.

FYI: If they eat too fast there is a *fatal* chance of the pup inhaling the food into their lungs.

Our Feeding Schedule: 6am & 5pm: 2 cups of Native Level 1 Dog Food

FEEDING AMOUNTS: GUIDELINES ONLY
(adjust accordingly)

- 📄 2 months 2-4 cups per day - (divided into 3 meals daily if possible)
- 📄 3 months 3-5 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 4 months 4-6 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 5 months 5-7 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 6 months 6-8 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 7 months..... 6-9 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 8 months..... 6-9 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 9 months..... 7-10 cups per day- (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 10 - 12 months....7-10 cups per day - (divided into 2 meals daily)
- 📄 12 -18 months.... 8-11 cups a day (divided into 2 meals daily)

“Other food suggestions”

1. [Blue Seal Pork & Barley Adult Formula](#)
2. [Eagle Pack Holistic Large & Giant Breed Dog or Adult Formula](#)
3. [Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul Large Breed Adult or Adult Formula](#)
4. [Taste of the Wild Pacific Stream Canine Formula](#)
5. [Premium Edge Chicken, Rice & Vegetable Adult Formula](#)
6. [Nutro Natural Choice Chicken Meal, Rice & Oatmeal Adult Formula](#)
7. [Diamond Large Breed 60+ Adult Dog Formula](#)
8. [Diamond Naturals Lamb Meal & Rice Adult Dog Formula](#)
9. [Nutro Natural Choice Lamb Meal & Rice Large Breed Adult or Adult Formula](#)

“Foods that are **NOT** recommended for Great Danes because the levels may not be correct, and/or they may contain wheat and/or corn which can make the Dane have an allergic reaction”

1. [Puppy Food](#)
2. [Any cheap store brand etc.](#)
3. [If it doesn't follow my feeding guidelines, don't use it](#)