

Some foods which are edible for humans, and even other species of animals, can pose hazards for dogs because of their different metabolism. Some may cause only mild digestive upsets, whereas, others can cause severe illness, and even death. The following common food items should not be fed (intentionally or unintentionally) to dogs. This list is, of course, incomplete because we cannot possibly list everything your dog should not eat.

<i>What to Avoid</i>	<i>Reasons to Avoid</i>
Alcoholic beverages	Can cause intoxication, coma, and death
Avocado (fruit, pit, & plant)	Can cause difficulty breathing; fluid accumulation in the chest, abdomen and heart; or pancreatitis
Baby food	Can contain onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs (see Onion below). Can also result in nutritional deficiencies, if fed in large amounts
Bones from fish, poultry, or other meat sources	Can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system. Bones (cooked) Can splinter and tear a dog's internal organs.
Caffeine (from coffee, coffee grounds, tea, or tea bags)	Stimulates the central nervous and cardiac systems, and can cause vomiting, restlessness, heart palpitations, and even death within hours.
Cat food	Generally too high in protein and fats.
Chocolate, coffee, tea	Can contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can be toxic and affect the heart and nervous systems. Chocolate can cause seizures, coma and death. The darker the chocolate, the more dangerous it is. But any chocolate, in large enough amounts, can kill a dog. The symptoms may not show up for several hours with death following within twenty-four hours.
Citrus oil extracts	Can cause vomiting
Dairy products	Can cause pancreatitis, gas and diarrhea. A small amount of non-fat, plain yoghurt is usually safe
Egg whites (raw)	Raw egg whites contain a protein called avidin, which can deplete your dog of biotin, one of the B vitamins. Biotin is essential to your dog's growth and coat health. The lack of it can cause hair loss, weakness, growth retardation, or skeleton deformity.
Fat trimmings	Too much fat or fried foods can cause pancreatitis
Fruit pits, seeds	Apple seeds, cherry pits, and peach pits, pear pips, plums pits, peaches, and apricot pits contain cyanide, which is poisonous. Can cause intestinal obstruction and enteritis.
Grains (large amounts)	Grains should not be given in large amounts or make up a large part of a dog's diet, but rice is generally safe in small amounts.
Grapes & raisins	Can cause kidney failure in dogs. As little as a single serving of raisins can kill. If the dog doesn't eat enough at one time to be fatal, he can be severely damaged by eating just a few grapes or raisins regularly.
Ham & bacon	Contain too much fat and too much salt, and can cause pancreatitis. Also, large breeds of dogs that eat salty food may drink too much water and develop a life-threatening condition called bloat.
Hops	Unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate, elevated temperature, seizures, and death.
Human vitamin supplements containing iron	Can damage the lining of the digestive system and be toxic to the other organs including the liver and kidneys.
Liver (large amounts)	Raw liver or too much cooked liver (three servings a week) can lead to vitamin A toxicity. This can affect muscles and cause deformed bones, excessive bone growth on the elbows and spine, weight loss, and anorexia.
Macadamia nuts	Contain an unknown toxin, which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscle. Can cause weakness, muscle tremor and paralysis.
Marijuana	Can depress the nervous system, cause vomiting, and changes in the heart rate.

Milk & other dairy products	Some adult dogs and cats do not have sufficient amounts of the enzyme lactase, which breaks down the lactose in milk. This can result in diarrhea.
Mushrooms	Can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death. Wild mushrooms can cause abdominal pain, drooling, liver damage, kidney damage, vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, coma, or death.
Nutmeg	Can cause tremors, seizures and death.
Onions & garlic (raw, cooked, or powder)	Contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia.
Potato, rhubarb, & tomato leaves	Contain oxalates, which can affect the digestive, nervous, and urinary systems. Potato peels and green potatoes are dangerous.
Raw fish	Can result in a thiamine (a B vitamin) deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death.
Salt	If eaten in large quantities it may lead to electrolyte imbalances and kidney problems. Large breeds of dogs that eat salty food may then drink too much water and develop bloat, which is fatal unless emergency treatment is given very quickly.
Sugary foods	Can lead to obesity, dental problems, and possibly diabetes mellitus.
Table scraps (in large amounts)	Table scraps are not nutritionally balanced. They should never be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed.
Tobacco	Contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems. Can result in rapid heartbeat, collapse, coma, and death.
Tomatoes	Can cause tremors and heart arrhythmias. Tomato plants and the most toxic, but tomatoes themselves are also unsafe.
Walnuts	Walnuts are poisonous to dogs.
Xylitol	Diet products containing the sweetener Xylitol can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar, resulting in depression, loss of coordination and seizures. Unless treatment is given quickly, the dog could die.
Yeast dough	Can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines.