



Feeding a Multi-Pet Home

Slimming one pet when the others free-feed, without anyone going hungry

PETSLIKEMINE
WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

PET ON A DIET

OTHER PETS IN THE HOME

VET PRACTICE

A diet falls apart fast when the dieter can clean up someone else's bowl. The fix is to take the free-for-all out of feeding: separate or timed meals, the right pet eating the right food, and no bowl left down all day. It takes a little reorganising, but it is the thing that lets one pet slim while the others carry on as normal.

STOP THE DIETER EATING THE OTHERS' FOOD

- Feed measured meals at set times instead of leaving food down: no free choice for the dieter
- Lift all bowls after 15 to 20 minutes; what is not eaten goes away until the next meal
- Feed the dieter last, or behind a door, so the meal is finished before the others are loose
- Feed pets in separate rooms, or far enough apart that nobody can reach another bowl
- A microchip feeder opens only for its own pet, so a grazing cat keeps its food and the dieter cannot raid it

MAKE SURE EACH PET GETS ITS OWN RATION

- Pre-portion each pet's day in its own labelled tub, so the right amounts are obvious to everyone
- Watch that the dieter is not also losing out: it should finish its full, sensible meal every day
- Weigh each pet's food in grams to its own number; the dieter's ration is worked out for its target weight
- Brief the whole household and any sitter: who eats what, where, and that no bowl is left down

CATS: THE GRAZING PROBLEM

Cats are natural grazers, which makes a left-down bowl the enemy of a feline diet. Microchip feeders earn their keep here, and so do feeding stations placed up high or in separate spots, since a slim cat can jump to a perch a heavier one will not. Move to small, measured meals rather than a topped-up bowl.

THE CAT SAFETY LINE THAT OVERRIDES EVERYTHING

Never let a cat go hungry to make multi-pet feeding simpler. A cat that stops eating can develop hepatic lipidosis (a fatty liver) within days, which can be fatal. If your dieting cat is not eating its measured meals, or refuses food for 24 to 48 hours, that is a vet call, not a diet that is working. Slim a cat slowly, about 0.5 to 1% of body weight a week, food going in every day.

OUR FEEDING PLAN (WRITE IT FOR THE HOUSEHOLD)

PET	FOOD + GRAMS A DAY	WHERE / WHEN FED	SEPARATED HOW?

Written and reviewed by Dr Alastair Greenway MRCVS and Claire Greenway BVM&S MRCVS. This sheet explains and records. It does not diagnose or prescribe. Always follow your own vet's instructions.

How to use. Measured meals at set times, each pet eating its own food where the others cannot reach, no bowl left down, and the cat never going hungry. Brief everyone who feeds. A wellbeing aid, not a substitute for veterinary advice.

SEPARATE THE BOWLS, MEASURE EACH, NEVER STARVE A CAT