

# Weight Loss and Diabetes

---

Keeping your pet at an optimal weight can provide them with a longer life as well as a happier and more active lifestyle. Being overweight can directly contribute to a wide range of problems such as joint problems, diabetes, increased surgical and anesthetic risk and a compromised respiratory system.

If your veterinarian feels that your pet needs to lose a few extra pounds the best way to do that is to decrease the amount of calories they are getting and increase the amount of exercise. To determine how much your pet should be eating you can ask requirements for your pet at its optimal that makes your pet's food to find out how that information you can feed your pet the important to remember that treats are not your pet's overall caloric needs. To determine need to look up the nutritional facts for that manufacturer. Treats are ok to give but we that you're feeding to compensate. It is also important to limit table scraps as well. To help achieve an appropriate weight we also recommend meal feeding two times a day over free feeding throughout the day. It also helps to use a one cup measuring cup to measure out the food over using a butter container, old drinking cup or any other odd cup in the cupboard.



your veterinarian for the caloric weight and then contact the company many calories are in a cup. Once you have appropriate amount of food. It is also free calories, we need to include them in how many calories are in a treat you may product on the internet or call the then have to reduce the amount of food

You do not want your pet to lose a lot of weight quickly; it should be a gradual decrease in weight over several months. If you start to notice a rapid weight change in your pet contact your veterinarian as soon as possible to schedule an appointment for an exam. If you have been working on getting your pet's weight down and you are not noticing any change discuss this with your veterinarian. Your veterinarian may also want to do some blood work to evaluate your pet's overall organ function and health.

One of the common side effects of having an obese pet is their increased risk of diabetes. Insulin which is produced by the pancreas in a healthy pet is necessary for the body to utilize glucose. If the body does not have enough insulin to utilize the glucose and it will be excreted from the body in the urine. Signs of Diabetes include increased appetite, water consumption and urination as well as weight loss. These signs are very common signs and can be caused by several different problems; if you are noticing these signs contact your veterinarian and set up an appointment for your pet to have a physical exam. It is best if you try to get a urine sample to bring along to the appointment. This sample should be fresh and kept covered and in the refrigerator if it will be more than one hour before you can get it to the vet's office. To collect a urine sample we like to use a one gallon container that is cut down for dogs. The sample should be stored in a clean container that you are willing to part with. To collect a urine sample from a cat we have urine collection kits that can be picked up at the clinic. The veterinarian may also want to do blood work to evaluate your pet's overall organ function and health.



For more information feel free to call Cedar Grove Veterinary Services at 920-668-6212 or go to [www.veterinarypartner.com](http://www.veterinarypartner.com).