

NUTRITION

Feeding your dog a nutritionally balanced diet is essential to maintain health and vitality. We advise “life stage” diets which are divided into puppy, adult dog and senior dog ranges, targeting the specific requirements of each age group.

We recommend **Hills Science Plan Vet Essentials** food as it provides nutrition that is specifically formulated for your dog’s needs, with additional benefits including;

- Unique plaque removing kibble which has a “toothbrush-like” action
- Larger kibbles for increased chewing enjoyment
- No artificial colours, flavours or preservatives.
- Life-stage diets targeting the health needs of your dog at each stage of life
- Bespoke nutrition for special groups e.g. large breed puppies and miniature breeds

Dental disease is extremely prevalent in dogs over three years old and feeding a plaque-cleaning kibble helps prevent this, keeping teeth healthy and avoiding halitosis and dental surgery. Gum disease can allow bacteria to enter the bloodstream and could impact on your dog’s health. In fact, emerging science suggests there is a strong link between oral hygiene and maintaining good health. Hills Science Plan Vet Essentials utilises special technology that provides a cleaning action clinically proven to help reduce plaque and tartar, freshen breath and reduce long term risk of gum disease.

Further benefits of the Hill’s Vet Essentials range are detailed below. However, there are several other good quality diets available, for example **Royal Canin**, **James Wellbeloved** and the rest of the **Hill’s Science Plan** ranges. We have thousands of different diets available for next day collection, at competitive prices. Please phone the surgery with your request and we will do our utmost to accommodate you.

PUPPY AND LARGE BREED PUPPY DIETS



The first few months are vital for your puppy’s lifelong health.

Hill's Vet Essentials Puppy diet is formulated to address his essential health needs;

- **Development:** natural DHA (omega-3 fatty acid, found in mother's milk) that help support visual and brain development.
- **Immunity-** antioxidants with high levels of Vitamin E to support a healthy immune system.
- **Vitality-** precise balance of minerals and omega-3 fatty acids for healthy bone and joint development.
- **Digestion-** highly digestible proteins and a balance of fibres to support a healthy digestive tract.
- **Oral health-** precise balance of vitamins and minerals for healthy development of teeth.
- **Skin and Coat-** High levels of omega-6 fatty acids help promote healthy skin and a shiny coat.

Rapidly growing, **large breed** puppies such as Labradors, German Shepherds and Great Danes, have specific nutritional requirements to ensure healthy skeletal development. In particular, an incorrect calcium to phosphorus ratio can cause cartilage defects and degenerative joint disease. Excessive calorie intake can also cause developmental skeletal abnormalities due to accelerated growth rates. Hills Vet Essentials Large Breed Puppy diets are formulated to provide the precise mineral requirements and calorie content to ensure healthy skeletal maturity

ADULT DOG AND MINI ADULT DOG

The adult stage of life is usually considered as that from around 12 months of age through to 7 years. As an adult, your dog will have his own specific nutritional needs to keep him in peak condition and help him live a long and active life.

Hill's Vet Essentials diets are formulated to ensure optimal health;

Vitality- precise balance of minerals and omega-3 fatty acids for healthy bone and joint development.

Digestion- highly digestible proteins and a balance of fibres to support a healthy digestive tract.

Skin and Coat-High levels of omega-6 fatty acids help promote healthy skin and a shiny coat.

Dental- Unique kibble technology that provides a clinically proven cleaning action.

Weight- Appropriate levels of protein and fat to help maintain ideal weight.



The Hill's Vet Essentials adult mini diets are formulated for the small and toy breeds, below 15kg.

MATURE ADULT DOG AND MINI MATURE ADULT DOG

As your dog gets older, his metabolism may alter, along with other changed such as the level of exercise he needs. You can help keep him fit and healthy as he gets older by making sure you feed him nutrition that is specifically tailored for mature dogs. Hill's Vet Essentials mature ranges are formulated to address the essential health needs of older dogs;

Vital Organs- Controlled levels of sodium and phosphorus to support healthy vital organ function, particularly the kidneys.

Vitality- Precise balance of minerals and omega-3 fatty acids for healthy bones and joints

Digestion- Highly digestible proteins and a balance of fibres to support a healthy digestive tract

Dental- Unique kibble technology that provides a clinically proven cleaning action.

Weight- Appropriate levels of protein and fat to help maintain ideal weight.



The Hill's Vet Essentials mature adult mini diets are formulated for the small and toy breeds, below 15kg.

PRESCRIPTION DIETS

Many canine disease respond well to dietary therapy. Dogs with certain conditions may need to be on a special diet for life. Other prescription diets are useful as short term therapy

of temporary disease, for example bouts of gastroenteritis require a bland, easily digestible diet such as Hill's i/d or Royal Canin sensitivity control.

The majority of prescription diets we use are from the Hill's or Royal Canin Ranges and form an important part of treatment. Examples of longterm prescription diets include diabetic control using Hill's w/d and food allergy control using Hill's z/d or Royal Canin hypoallergenic diets.