



"Where Smart Pets Bring Their People"

The Purina Body Condition Scoring System

Feline

Canine

UNDERFED	<p>1 Ribs are visible on shorthaired cats; no palpable fat; severe abdominal tuck; lumbar vertebrate and wing of ilia easily palpated</p> <p>2 Shared characteristics of BCS 1 and 3</p>		<p>1 Ribs, lumbar vertebrate, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass</p> <p>2 Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Minimal loss of muscle mass</p>	
	<p>3 Ribs easily palpable with minimal fat covering; lumbar vertebrate obvious; obvious fat behind waist; minimal abdominal fat</p>		<p>3 Ribs easily palpable and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.</p>	
IDEAL	<p>4 Ribs easily palpable with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted. Abdominal tuck evident.</p> <p>5 Well proportioned; observe waist behind ribs; ribs palpable with slight fat covering. Abdominal fat minimal</p>		<p>4 Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted. Abdominal tuck evident.</p> <p>5 Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from the side.</p>	
	<p>6 Shared characteristics of BCS 5 & 7</p> <p>7 Ribs not easily palpated with moderate fat covering; waist poorly discernable; obvious rounding of abdomen; moderate abdominal fat.</p>		<p>6 Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernable viewed from above but not prominent. Abdominal tuck present.</p> <p>7 Ribs palpable with difficulty, heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be absent</p>	
OVERFED	<p>8 Shared characteristics of BCS 7 & 9.</p> <p>9 Ribs not palpable under heavy fat cover; feavy fat deposits over lumbar area, face and limbs; distention of abdomen with no waist; extensive abdominal fat deposits</p>		<p>8 Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. No abdominal tuck.</p> <p>9 Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs.</p>	

indicates body condition score