



Lake Minnetonka Pet Wellness Center

Wayzata

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Mound

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## The Purina Body Condition Scoring System

### Feline

### Canine

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