

Info shared by Pitbull SA.

Manjaro APBT kennel.

South Africa.

My Website <http://www.pitbullsa.co.za/>

My E mail "manjaro@pitbullsa.co.za"

My Facebook "Gawie Manjaro"

My Facebook page "Manjaro Kennel"

My mobile +27827838280.

Zello.com "VoIP" – ask for info.

Human supplements for dogs.

Some human supplements are fine to give to dogs as long as you adjust the dosage for their size – ask your vet.

Give no more than half the human dosage to a 30 kg dog, and one-quarter the human dosage to a 15kg dog if you feed a commercial diet. Very small dogs need products made for them to get the dosage right.

For dogs fed a homemade diet, you can give half a human supplement dosage once a day - a-day type of multivitamin supplement to dogs weighing up to 30 kg, to help make up for what might be missing in the diet.

Note! Don't use children's products that contain xylitol, which can be very toxic to dogs!

Added supplements.

The wider the variety of healthy foods in appropriate proportions you feed, the less need for supplements there should be. Conversely, the more limited the diet you feed, the more supplements are needed.

Supplements may be more important for cooked diets, since heat destroys some nutrients.

Freezing also destroys some nutrients.

The longer food is cooked or frozen, the more nutrients will be lost.

Remember that calcium is always needed unless you feed a diet that includes raw meaty bones, where the bone is fully consumed.

Following are some supplements that can be added to help ensure that all nutritional needs are met:

Vitamin E should be supplemented in all homemade diets in order to meet nutritional guidelines.

Requirements increase whenever you add fish or plant oils.

Fish oil (body oil, such as salmon oil or EPA oil) is a healthy addition to any diet.

Sardines can also be used in place of fish oil to supply omega-3 fatty acids.

If using fish, give around 0.03 kg fish per kg of meat and other animal products.

Cod liver oil is high in vitamins A and D.

If you don't feed fish regularly, you should give cod liver oil in an amount that provides around 100 IUs vitamin D per 10 kg of body weight daily.

Other fatty oils:

Beef and chicken have different types of fat.

If you feed a mixture of the two, including dark meat chicken (which has more fat than the breast), this will help to balance out the fats, but if you feed only (or primarily) one or the other, the fats in the diet will be unbalanced.

Plant oils - If feeding primarily beef, add 1 tsp hempseed oil, walnut oil, safflower oil, or corn oil (or 2 tsp ground hempseeds, or 2-3 tsp canola oil) per 0.750 kg of meat. If feeding primarily chicken, add 1 tsp flaxseed or chia seed oils (or 3 tsp freshly ground flax or chia seeds) per 0.750 kg of meat.

Commercial green blend mixes or homemade with added kelp.

Kelp supplies iodine that may be in short supply if it is not included in the diet.

Too much iodine, like too little, can suppress thyroid function, so give no more than ¼ tsp to large dogs, and proportionately less to smaller dogs. If you do not supplement with kelp, you should add iodized salt, or a multi-vitamin and mineral supplement that includes iodine.

Another option is to use a base mix - from various combination which contain vegetables, fruit, and more.

These are particularly useful if you do not include vegetables in the diet you feed.

Vegetables supply trace minerals as well as antioxidants.

Multi-vitamin and mineral supplement, may be needed if you are not feeding vegetables.

Oysters are very high in zinc, and are also a source of copper, iodine,

and vitamin D. Zinc, copper and vitamin D may be in short supply if you don't include beef liver in your dog's diet. Add no more than 1 ounce of canned oysters per pound of other meat in the diet.

Garlic freshly crushed (no more than about 1/2 of a small clove per 10 kg of body weight daily).

Nutritional or Brewer's yeast: Nutritional yeast is a good source of B vitamins (Brewer's yeast has less).

Brewer's yeast is a good source of choline (nutritional yeast has less).

Molasses provides iron and B vitamins.

Multi minimal vitamins combo - You can also give vitamin-mineral supplements (reduce the amount of added calcium if the amount in the supplement is significant).

The following supplements are recommended by some veterinary nutritionists to help balance homemade diets (note that calcium must still be added separately unless you feed raw meaty bones).

Follow the product directions –some such supplements are high in vitamin D and iron.