

Magic Berners
MagicBerners.com 310-614-2075
STARTING PUPPY DIETS

We FEED OUR Berner Pups Science Diet Small Bite Kibbles¹.

The puppies eat Science Diet Puppy (a.k.a. Science Diet Growth, Science Diet Healthy Development). It comes in small bites and original bites [the only difference is the pellet size not the nutrition] – no not be confused with marketing terminology like “toy or small breed puppy food” this is not the same.

Your puppy can eat either size. Generally the first bag you buy is small bites then the following are original.

At 8 weeks of age your Berner has been eating about 2½ to 3 cups of food a day. You will begin to feed your pup by dividing this into 3 separate meals. Begin by offering 1 ½ cups of food – “DRY” at each meal. This can be soaked in Goats Milk, at first, to enhance the flavor. This is exactly how the pups have been loving their meals for the last 3 weeks.

FRESH WATER IS AVAILABLE CONTINUOUSLY 24/7 – EVEN OVERNIGHT !

Stress in the form of travel, a new environment, a change in water, separation from siblings, and the introduction of new family members is possible. Thus fluctuations in your Berner's appetite and/or stool is possible. We encourage the use of an antibiotic for 5-6 days to prevent this “traveler's diarrhea” in your pup.

MEAL FEEDING Leave the food down for a reasonable amount of time (20-30 min.). Then pick it up. DO NOT leave food accessible continuously. This tactic will work against you in many different ways!

Your Berner's appetite for the first few days may be unpredictable. The new environment, activity, distractions and lack of competition from siblings are all factors. If needed you may add 2 tablespoons of any of the following to help the transition: Goat's Milk, Canned Science diet puppy, canned prescription diet I/D . (or scrambled egg, cottage cheese, cooked hamburger or cooked flaked chicken). Mix the canned food with enough hot water to make gravy. Pour over the dry food and mix well. Or Dice the flavor additives and mix well into the food with a little water.

¹ Science Diet and prescription diet I/D are products of Hills Pet foods and are readily available. Your Veterinarian generally is the best source for the prescription diets. While Science Diet is retailed through both Veterinarians and pet stores.

Dover Shores Veterinary Hospital - Dr. Bruce Bauersfeld D.V.M.

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- Or you can soak th kibble in goat's milk.
– DO NOT ADD COWS MILK! -

After 12 – 16 weeks of age, at some point, your Berner will become fussy about his/her food. At that time you may divide is total calories between two meals and skip lunch (the middle meal).

Now you will always feed two meals per day.

Meal feeding twice daily, will improve your obedience training, give you the upper hand in potty training, and most importantly reduce the risk for “Bloat” (acute gastric dilatation).

Gradually increase the amount of food as your pup grows.

5 MONTHS OF AGE: At 5 months of age you will transition from puppy food to “adult food” or an “all stages” food — NOT a puppy food. Transparent Nutrition's: “Protect” is an excellent choice.

This seems strange to some of us. But, research shows that controlling caloric and protein intake prevents orthopedic problems like hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia. This diet promotes normal growth and development. And allows the Berner to reach his/her full genetic potential.

NEVER GIVE CALCIUM SUPPLEMENTATION OF ANY KIND TO YOUR PUPPY

SUPPLEMENTS: We give our puppies a homeopathic protocol consisting of:

- Omega Benefits® Cognitive with DHA. ²
- Entero TruBenefits® (Probiotics & Prebiotics) ³and
- Ligaplex™ ⁴

PROBIOTICS are given from weaning to 16 weeks of age, then pulsed and/or extended as needed. We also use probiotics during times of stress or travel to

² Omega Benefits® Cognitive with DHA- Veterinarian Recommended Solutions®

³ Entero TruBenefits® Veterinarian Recommended Solutions®

⁴ Ligaplex™ - Standard Process

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successfully prevent problems. It is important to use a 'Canine formulated Probiotic and not one for people because the normal intestinal flora is very different from species to species. We use Entero TruBenefits®.

All of these supplements are available OTC (over the counter) and do not require prescriptions.





If you have difficulty finding them or prefer one stop direct shipping, Bruce's Veterinary Hospital can mail them direct to you.

Don't forget to mention you qualify for the "Friends of Magic Berners - Discount".

Ligapex – 1 capsule twice a day for adults with Musculoskeletal Disease.
{ Increase as they Grow} [Start at about 3 months. Continue to 18 months of age]

- 10 - 20# ¼ capsule once a day
- 20 - 40# ¼ capsule twice a day
- 40 - 60# ½ capsule twice a day
- 60 - 80# ¾ capsule twice a day
- >80# 1 capsule twice a day

Omega Benefits® Cognitive with DHA

Directions for use		
Administer at meal time.		
Prime pump before delivering		
Weight of Dog or Cat	# Pumps Per Day	Daily Dose
2-10 lbs		1 mL
11-20 lbs		2 mL
21-30 lbs		3 mL
31+ lbs		4 mL

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Entero TruBenefits® (Probiotics & Prebiotics)

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Administer at meal time

Scoop included

DOGS:

Weight	Serving
1-30 lbs	1 scoop
31-70 lbs	1.5 scoops
71+ lbs	2 scoops

FOR VACCINATIONS, WORMING, FLEA CONTROL: SEE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT PROTOCOLS.

Misc notes

Entero TruBenefits®

The Entero TruBenefits® is for digestion yes - but it gives generalized immune support as well. For pups I use it Intermediate to Short term,
At other times, I use it in times of stress (travel, pregnancy, illness, etc)
Remember growth is a stress, especially on our boys...

Both The Ligaplex and Omega Benefits® Cognitive are for bones joints muscles, skin, growth, etc and are used intermediate to long term

The Ligaplex strengthens tendons and soft tissue

I hope that helps...

Dr. B....

Supplements for Berner Pups and Growing Adolescents

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