

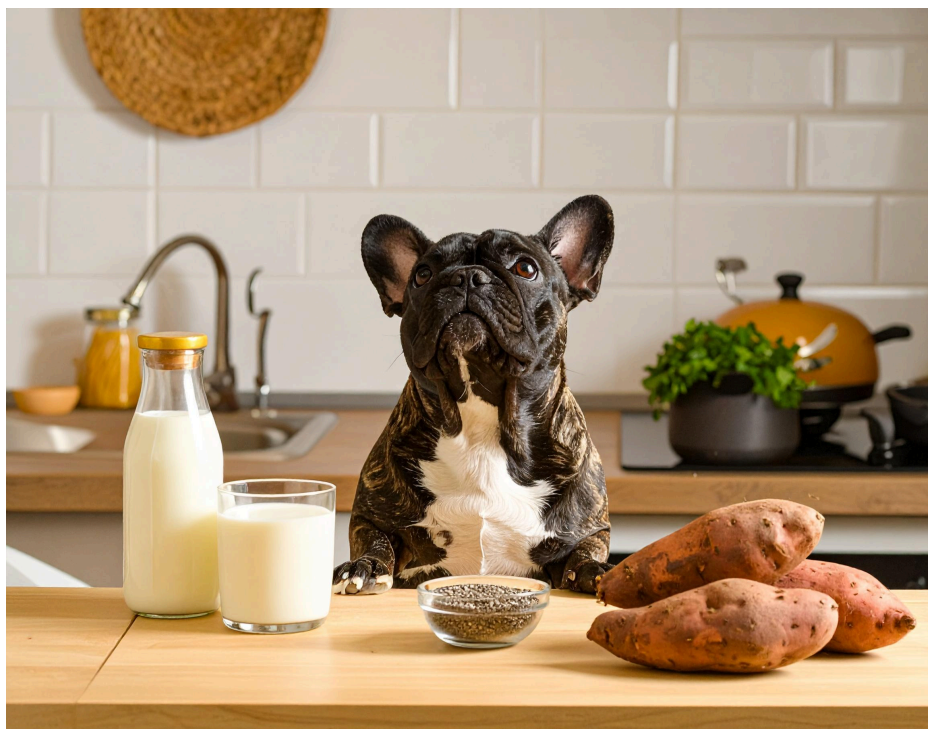


RAWZ – Nutritional Considerations for Small Breed Dogs and Air-Dried Benefits

1. Tailored Nutrition for Small Breed Dogs

While small breed dogs share many of the same core nutritional requirements as their larger counterparts, such as the need to maintain healthy joints and prevent obesity, their physiology demands a more specialized approach. Small dogs have a compact stomach capacity, which limits the volume of food they can consume at one time, combined with a faster metabolic rate that increases their energy and nutrient requirements. Food also tends to pass more quickly through their digestive tract compared to larger breeds, creating less opportunity for nutrient absorption.¹

For these reasons, diets formulated for small breeds must be exceptionally nutrient dense and carefully balanced. Every bite needs to deliver high levels of essential nutrients in a form that is easily digestible and bioavailable. Protein, vitamins, and minerals must be present in sufficient amounts to meet daily requirements, but fat levels must be moderated to avoid excess calorie intake that could predispose dogs to weight gain.



2. Digestive Health Through Functional Ingredients

Digestive efficiency is essential to the overall health and vitality of small breed dogs. To support this, diets are formulated with a balanced blend of insoluble and soluble fibers that regulate transit time and promote optimal stool quality. Ingredients such as sweet potato, chia seed, and psyllium husk help achieve the ideal fiber ratio, further enhancing gastrointestinal function. At the same time, prebiotics including inulin, fructooligosaccharides (FOS), and goat's milk selectively nourish beneficial bacteria, fostering a more balanced and resilient gut ecosystem.^{2,3,4}

To further reinforce digestive health, the diets incorporate a robust probiotic strain, *Bacillus coagulans*, which is resilient to processing. This ensures delivery of viable organisms to the intestines, where they can enhance microbial diversity and contribute to overall gastrointestinal stability. Together, they nurture a balanced microbiome.



3. Joint and Anti-Inflammatory Support

Joint health and mobility are critical concerns for small breed dogs, particularly as they age. Nutritional strategies that target inflammation and oxidative stress play an important role in overall health. These diets incorporate omega-3 fatty acids, including EPA and DHA, sourced from marine microalgae oil and green-lipped mussels.⁵ These long-chain fatty acids are well-documented for their anti-inflammatory properties.

Complementing these are omega-6 fatty acids from sunflower oil and flaxseed, which work in balance with omega-3s to provide a complete fatty acid profile. Additionally, antioxidant nutrients such as vitamins C and E help reduce inflammation and support healthy mobility.⁵



4. Air-Dried, Nutrient-Dense Formulation

To maximize palatability and nutrient integrity, these diets are prepared using a gentle air-drying process at low temperatures. This method locks in flavor and preserves key phytonutrients while avoiding the nutrient losses often associated with high-heat processing. The result is a digestible, aromatic diet that appeals even to selective eaters.

Importantly, these diets are composed of 96% meat and/or fish, organ meat, goat's milk, and green-lipped mussels, ensuring concentrated protein and naturally occurring nutrients in every bite. Unlike conventional formulas that rely heavily on supplementation, these diets are made without synthetic ingredients, instead drawing on whole food sources to meet nutritional requirements. Lean proteins such as chicken, beef, lamb, and salmon provide essential amino acids, while moderate fat levels supply balanced energy without promoting obesity.

In addition, a diverse range of antioxidant-rich fruits, vegetables, and algae, including carrot, apple, tomato, broccoli, pumpkin, spinach, cranberry, blueberry, deliver phytonutrients such as carotenoids and polyphenols. These compounds combat oxidative stress and bolster immune resilience.⁶

By combining nutrient-dense formulation, functional digestive, and mobility support, these air-dried diets deliver a comprehensive nutritional solution tailored specifically for small breed dogs. The integration of whole-food ingredients, the absence of synthetic additives, and the commitment to preserving nutrient integrity through low-temperature drying further distinguish this approach. Ultimately, these diets are designed to provide complete, balanced nutrition in smaller, portion-appropriate servings.

References

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