



Getting Pets to eat new foods, a few handy hints

- Change the food gradually over a 2-week period. Start off with 7/8ths old food and 1/8th new food – mix in well, use for 2 days. Next 2 days 3/4's old food and 1/4 new food. Next 2 days 5/8ths old food and 3/8ths new food..... etc. they often gradually make the change.
- If they're only keen on biscuits then crush them up and sprinkle them on the new food. Cats may find the food more appealing if you add a few drops of Soy sauce.
- Put a bit of the new food in their mouth, some pets will taste it and decide "OK, this isn't so bad" and then devour the rest.
- Stroke or pat and praise them while they eat and hand feed them to get used to the change – they're much more amenable to eating when receiving affection.
- When all else fails, try explaining to them that this new food is good for them and will make them feel better. This has worked in a few cases!

Some pets end up having their way and won't make the change. For some ill animals, bad eating habits are better than not eating at all, especially if it is in its final days when quality of life is of utmost importance.

With most pets it is worth persevering, as their long-term health will be greatly enhanced by good nutrition.