



OKLAHOMA 4-H

BAKING TREATS 4-DOGS



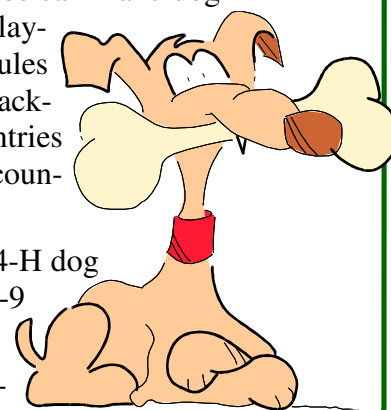
WHY MAKE DOG TREATS

Dog treats go a long way towards building a strong and trusting relationship with your dog. Dogs love treats and they are fun to make and share with your dog. They are useful as training aids to reinforce desired behavior and as lures in shaping behaviors. Treats provide variety in your dog's diet and create additional mental stimulus.

Dog treats also provide an excellent community service opportunity. 4-H clubs can make dog treats for the dogs in their local humane shelter and then spend an afternoon playing with the dogs at the shelter (check with your local shelter about their rules governing age of volunteers). When your 4-H club prepares soldier care packages you might want to add some dog treats as many soldiers deployed in countries like Afghanistan enjoy having dog treats to share with the stray dogs they encounter.

Use dog treats as a way to thank the donors and volunteers that sponsor your 4-H dog club events and activities. The treats can also be used to thank your local K-9 law enforcement team for their service.

Keep in mind that treats should be a special bonus and used like we eat desserts. They are not a meal replacement.



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BE SAFE WHEN CHANGING YOUR DOG'S DIET

The treat recipes given in this handout should be safe for most healthy dogs in limited amounts. However, dogs, like people, can have individual reactions to changes in their diets. It is also important to note that many common food items that humans eat can be toxic to pets e.g. chocolate, onion, avocado, raisins, artificial sweeteners with xylitol, grapes, macadamia nuts....

When altering your pet's diet it is always a good idea to discuss the change with your veterinarian or an animal nutritionist.

PRACTICE FOOD SAFETY

When making pet treats, practice food safety just as you would for yourself. Wash your hands and make sure the food preparation surface has been cleaned and disinfected. When working with items such as eggs make certain not to let them sit out on the counter any longer than necessary. Resist the temptation to lick the batter off your fingers as uncooked eggs can be a source of harmful bacteria.

When the treats go in the oven use the wait time as an opportunity to clean up the mess you made while mixing and cutting treats. This way you'll keep your kitchen free of harmful bacteria and make your parents happy by being a responsible 4-H member.

CHICKEN BISCUIT FOR DOGS

Recipe Supplied by California K9 Kitchen

Ingredients

2 cups Whole Wheat Flour
1/2 cup Unbleached Flour
1/2 cup Rice Flour
1/2 teaspoon Chicken Base (no MSG/no onion/low sodium)
1/3 cup Vegetable Oil
1 cup Warm Water
1/2 cup Low Fat Powdered Milk
1 Whole Egg Beaten

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. Prepare a lightly greased cookie sheet or line a pan with parchment paper.
3. In a large bowl, mix chicken base, vegetable oil, warm water and beaten egg. Add the powdered milk and mix completely.
4. In a separate bowl combine the three flours; gradually add to wet mixture until it forms a stiff dough.
5. Place the dough ball on a bread board lightly floured with wheat flour. Knead 3 - 4 min., adding more whole wheat flour if necessary to make a very stiff dough.
6. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to 1/4" thickness. Cut with cookie cutter(s).
7. Bake for 20 to 45 min until the treats start to turn a golden brown.
8. Allow to cool and dry out until hard. Store in an air tight container. You can freeze to extend life.

SWEET PAW-TATO CHIPS FOR DOGS Recipe Supplied by California K9 Kitchen

Ingredients

1 Sweet Potato
1 tsp Extra Virgin Olive Oil
1/2 tsp Dry Oregano Flakes

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 130 degrees or use a food dehydrator.
2. Clean potatoes and slice as evenly as possible in to 1/8 inch thick slices. Remove any black or dark green spots.
3. Place slices into a large mixing bowl. Add the olive oil and stir to lightly coat all sides of the slices. Add a little more oil if necessary to coat all the potato slices.
4. Add the Oregano and toss again to coat until all slices are spiced.
5. (oven preparation) Place slices on a cookie sheet in a single layer and dehydrate in the oven 6 to 12 hours, turning occasionally, until chips are crisp.
5. (Food dehydrator) Follow the drying instructions for your unit.
6. Store in an air tight container or bag.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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