Pet Sitters Ireland

Baking For Dog Owners

Including doggie cookies, muffins, pancakes, ice cream dehydrated treats, doggie tea & store bought treats.

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Homemade Dog Treats: Banana And Honey Dog Cookies

Ingredients for Homemade Dog Treats

- 2 cups water
- 2 mashed bananas
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 egg
- 4-5 cups of wholewheat flour (depending on size of eggs and bananas you may need to use up to 5 cups so mixture is not so sticky)
- 1 cup oats
- 1 teaspoon baking powder

Instructions

- Combine the water, banana, honey and egg
- Stir in the flour, oats and baking powder
- Use an electric mixer to combine or 3-5 minutes.
- Kneed on a floured board until mixture is no longer sticky. Add additional flour as needed to help with this
- Roll out to 4-5mm thickness and then cut into desired shapes
- Bake for 20 minutes.

Let them cool before you give them to your dog.

Homemade Dog Treats: Peanut Butter And Banana Dog Biscuits

Peanut Butter And Banana Dog Biscuits

1 cup flour
1/2 cup peanut butter
1 ripe mashed banana
1 egg

Mix, roll, cut and bake for 20 mins

Homemade Dog Treats: Cheese and Oat Dog Cookies

I'm trying to keep the recipes simple, as lets face it we are all short on time. So hopefully most of these ingredients you will have already.

Cheese and Oat Dog Cookies

1 1/2 cup flour
1 1/2 cup oats
3/4 cup Parmesan cheese
3/4 cup low fat regular cheese
1 cup water
2 eggs

Mix, roll, cut and bake for 30-40 mins

Homemade Dog Treats: Apple and Banana Dog Cookies

They say an apple a day keeps the doctor away!

Homemade Apple and Banana Dog Cookies

2 1/2 cups of flour

1 cup of oats.

3 cups of mashed apple and banana (I used the pulp from juiced apples, but you could easily use a food processor to chop up the apple or make apple sauce and let it cool)

1/3 cup oil

1/3 cup water

1 egg

Mix, Roll, Cut and bake for 40 minutes

Homemade Dog Treats: Quick and Easy Pancake Recipe

Recipe For Pancakes For Dogs

- 1 banana (very ripe)
- 1 egg
- Optional - squirt of honey and pinch of cinnamon

Step 1: Slice banana and mash together with one egg until you have a batter consistency. There will be small lumps, but that doesn't matter.

Step 2: Heat up a non stick pan and if you want to make pancakes in the shape of a bone of a dog then you can use metal cutters to poor the batter into.

Step 3 Voila! Cute pancakes your dog will LOVE!

Homemade Dog Treats: Dog Friendly Ice cream

It's really quick and easy to make - just make sure you have plenty of room in the freezer.

Dog Friendly Ice Cream Recipe

3 ripe bananas
5 cups yogurt
1 cup peanut butter

Blend the mixture together until there are no lumps at all. I would recommend using really ripe bananas as they blend really easily.

Pour into ice cube trays. I had some fun heart shaped trays which made tiny little heart shaped ice cream treats.

Freeze overnight or until fully frozen.

Treat your dogs to a tail wagging treat!

How To Make Dehydrated Dog Treats

What are Dehydrated Dog Treats?

Making treats for your dog can be fun but also time-consuming. However, dehydrated dog treats just involve slicing up the meat, fruit or vegetables and putting them into the dehydrator and leaving them for a certain length of time.

Note- Please make sure that anything you dehydrate is suitable for your dog. Some fruit and vegetables can be poisonous to your dog.

In case you didn't know when you dehydrate something you are removing the water from it in order to preserve and store it. You have probably seen dehydrator fruit snacks in the supermarket or beef jerky snacks.

Benefits of Dehydrated Dog Treats

When you dehydrate meat you are getting all the nutritional benefits of raw meat, but you are removing any dangerous pathogens often found in raw meat.

Dehydrated treats are also much easier to store than raw treats and last a lot longer if stored correctly.

Pros and Cons of Making Your Own Dehydrated Dog Treats

Cost

The cost of making your own treats is much less than bought treats. Once you have covered the cost of the dehydrator you will be saving money for years to come.

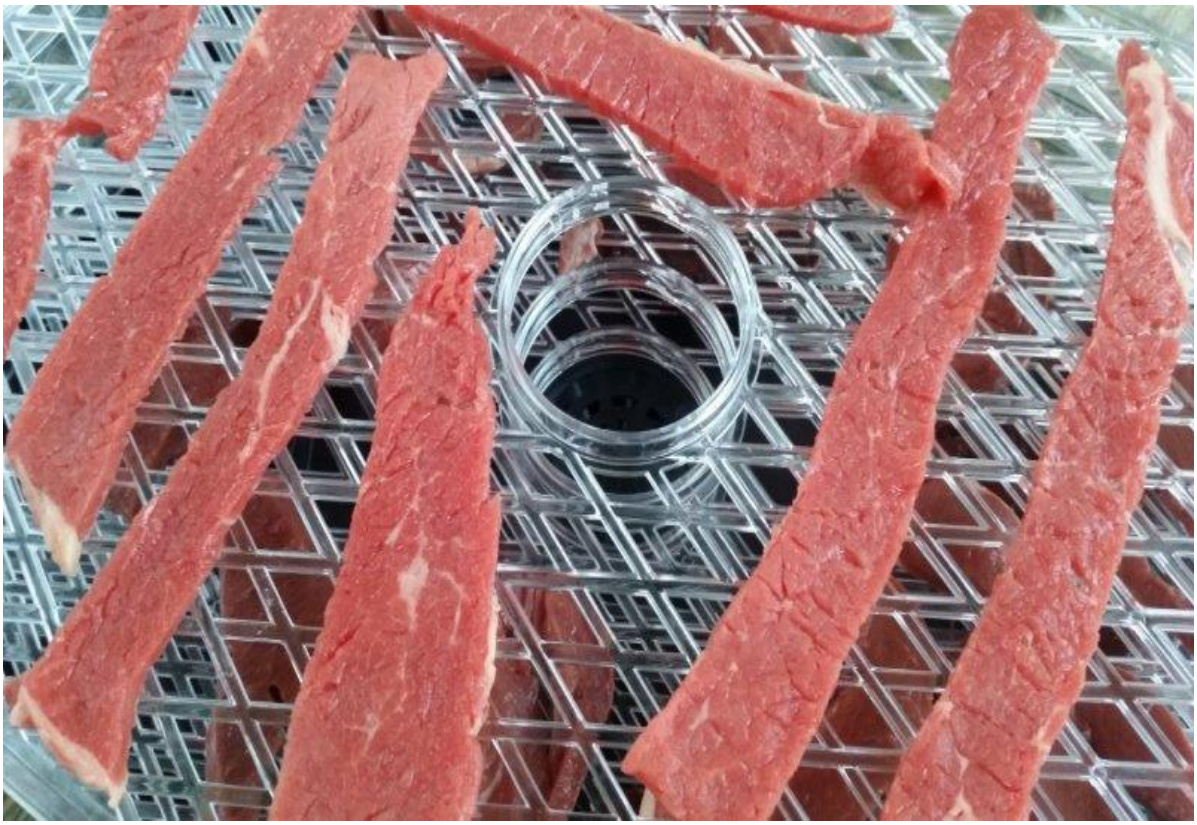
For example, 350g of beef cost me 3 euro, whereas 100g of bought dehydrated treats cost around 4.50 euro.

Obviously not included in the costing of making the beef treats is my time and also the electricity to power a dehydrator.

If you want to work out how much it costs to run your dehydrator then this website will help you work that out.

Ingredient Source

When you are purchasing your own ingredients, especially meat, you know exactly where it has come from. You can trace the source of the meat and know that it's a reputable supplier and safe for your dog.



Convenience

The whole process is actually really simple, just slice and pop in the

dehydrator. Of course buying a pack of treats is always going to be easier for most people.

Ease of Use

What I love about dehydrated treats is that there is very little washing up! Compared to baking cookies or muffins for your dog, there is nothing much to wash up. Just the knife and then the trays of the dehydrator, which are really easy and quick to wash.

Also, the dehydrator has a timer and turns itself off when it is done, so you can put them on overnight and wake up to very happy dogs.

How Long Does It Take to Make Dehydrated Dog Treats?

When you look for an answer to this online it's always quite a vague answer. A lot of it depends on how thick you slice things, so listed timings online can range from 5-30 hours.

The general rule of thumb is that for crunchier treats leave them in the dehydrator for longer.

For each of the recipes below I have included my exact timings to help you get started.

Can You Make Dehydrated Dog Treats In The Oven?

It is possible to make treats in the oven, although I didn't try that myself. The process is very much the same, just use a baking tray lined with grease proof paper to place the meat or veg on.

Keep the oven as low as possible. Some people also recommend that you leave the oven door open slightly.

You then need to keep turning them every half hour until they are dry.

Dehydrated Dog Treat Recipes

Dehydrated Beef Dog Treats

• Slice the lean beef 1/8th of an inch thick
• Cut into thin treat size strips
• Place on the dehydrator tray with a small gap between each slice
• Turn on to 70 degrees and set the timer for 6 hours.

After 6 hours they were bendy but didn't snap in half. I wanted them to be chewy so they would last longer.

I did try them for 12 hours initially and they were too brittle and the dogs ate them in seconds.

Note – you can always test them after 5, 6, 7 etc hours and see whether you are happy with them and take them out.

Dehydrated Liver Dog Treats

• Slice the liver 1/8th of an inch thick
• These will be smaller treats so you probably won't need to cut them into strips or pieces
• Place on the dehydrator tray with a small gap between each slice
• Turn on to 70 degrees and set the timer for 7 hours.

I left these in slightly longer as they still felt a bit moist.

You could, of course, cut them thinner so they dehydrate quicker.

Dehydrated Lambs Heart Dog Treats

- Remove any fat from the heart
- Slice to 1/8th of an inch thick
- I left these in circled shaped treats, but you could cut into smaller pieces
- Place on the dehydrator tray with a small gap between each slice
- Turn on to 70 degrees and set the timer for 7 hours.

Note – If you are making really small treats keep in mind the size of the holes in the dehydrator tray or they may fall through.

Dehydrated Sweet Potato Dog Treats Recipe

- Wash and pat dry
- Slice thinly, just under 1/8th inch.
- Place on the dehydrator tray with a small gap between each slice
- Turn on to 70 degrees and set the timer for 5 hours.

How Much Does a Dehydrator Cost?

The cost of a dehydrator does vary from around 4 euro upwards. We looked at 2 sizes, the square model and then the rectangular model.

Review of Rectangular Digital Food Dehydrator from Andrew James

We were sent the Rectangular Digital Food Dehydrator from Andrew James to make our dehydrated dog treats with.

The machine is a really good size, meaning you can make lots of treats all at once. With 6 trays it also gives you the opportunity to make 6 trays of the same treat or 6 different ones.

The air circulation feature in the machine means that all items are uniformly dried and there is no rotation required. An obvious benefit that you don't get when you use your oven to dehydrate treats.

You can set the temperature from 40-70 degrees and the timer goes up to 48 hours, meaning it's perfect to leave on overnight and turn itself off.

It's also very easy to clean, which for me was a huge bonus. The trays all come apart and I washed them all in hot soapy water.

It's also easy to store on a wide shelf or worktop. You could even set it up permanently in a utility room or garage if you were going to be using it a lot and didn't have space in your kitchen.

Dehydrated Dog Treats Review

From the moment I started preparing the meat Coco and Joey never left my side. Watching and waiting to see what was going on. The smell of the liver and heart was driving them crazy!

They much preferred the meat treats than the sweet potato treats. If I had only done veggie treats they would have probably eaten them, but once they knew meat was on the menu they passed on the vegetables and waited for the good stuff.

It's so easy to make them. No cooking or washing up to do and I now have a nice stack of treats to last them a few weeks.

This will definitely be a regular event at our house. Something I am sure the dogs will love me for!

Visit www.andrewjamesworldwide.com

Review Of PawBakes: Bake Your Own Pet Treats

Who Are PawBakes?

PawBakes was started by 3 friends, Chloe, Lauren and Jacquelyn, who wanted to share their love for animals with the rest of the world.

They wanted to create wholesome, delicious treats that could be baked at home by pet lovers just like them. Something simple and convenient that even the novice baker could successfully bake without too much stress or hassle.

Available in 2 flavours at the moment, Peanut Butter and Honey Flavour Doggie Biscuits and Peanut Butter With Doggie Friendly Chocolate Icing Cup Cake Baking Kit, these kits of super convenient for the busy dog owner.

The Benefits Of PawBakes Bake Your Own Pet Treats?

Quick and Easy

I love to bake for my 2 dogs, Coco and Joey. But it's not a job I normally take on unless I have a bit of time and are in the mood for cleaning up after. Whatever way I do things I always end up with flour on the floor and lots of pots to wash.

With the PawBakes treats, it was quite the opposite and I was really surprised that there was so little mess with them. I decided to bake both kits at once and because there were no ingredients to weigh out or chop it was really easy and quick to make them.

It was also great there were not too many steps to making the treats and the instructions were super simple. I hate it when you have a massive recipe to follow and it's so complicated that you need to keep checking to make sure you were doing it correctly.

Free Cutter

I do bake quite often for the dogs so I had invested in quite a lot of cutters, however, I had to order them all online. It's not that easy to get a bone shaped cutter in your local shop. So I was delighted one came in the kit.

Also, it's a cutter that will last so if you did decide to whip up some of your own recipes you could still use it.

Guaranteed Success

When you try out a recipe yourself, or you make up one of your own, you never really know how it will turn out. Did you weigh everything correctly and add enough of everything.

With PawBakes you literally just empty the powder into the bowl and add either water or eggs and oil, then you stir. So if you can open a bag and stir you are pretty safe that these will turn out well.

The only incident I had was melting the doggie friendly chocolate drops for the topping. Warning! When you melt chocolate over water the bowl gets really hot! (I'm sure most people know that!)

PawBakes Peanut Butter And Honey Biscuit Baking Kit

These were really easy to make. Empty the contents into a bowl and add water. Let the dough rest for 10 minutes, roll and cut. I made these and then while they were resting I started making the cupcakes.

When I came to cut them I actually got 12 of the biscuits bones out of it. I presume I had rolled them slightly thinner than recommended, but they turned out really well.

Most important the dogs loved them! They had a good sniff and then tucked into them.

PawBakes Peanut Butter Flavour Doggie Cupcake Baking Kit

The cupcakes are so cute when they are made. Another easy recipe, just add an egg and some oil to the powder and stir. The cupcake cases come in the kit so you don't need anything.

The topping really makes them so special and once you have it melted it's really easy to decorate them. It would be handy if it came in a tube ready to ice, but once you get the hang of melting them it's actually really easy.

The dogs really loved these. I had a taste of the chocolate myself and it's really tasty so I am not surprised they were woofing them down.

Review Of PawBakes: Bake Your Own Pet

Treats

These are really convenient and easy to make. The results are brilliant and the dogs totally loved them. The smell of them baking was also really gorgeous and I had 2 dogs sat next to me the entire time.

The price point is reasonable. Any ready to bake product is going to cost more than if you made it yourself. However if you consider the time you save then I think the additional cost is well worth it.

It would be nice to be able to buy a larger refill pack of the cookies that perhaps makes 30+ cookies, as with 2 hungry pointers they like their treats!

Visit www.PawBakes.com

Review Of Woof And Brew Healthy Herbal Dog Tea

When we think of a cup of tea we think of either some fancy china and a tea party or we think of a mug of tea and a chat with our best friend. One thing you probably don't associate tea with is your dog – unless you have ever left a cup down and they have helped themselves. But Woof and Brew are changing that with their innovative range of doggie teas.

Who Are Woof and Brew?

The Woof and Brew team consist of Steve Bennett, Lisa Morton, and Nick Gandon, who between them have a combined knowledge of dog-friendly venues, food and drink brands and tea. All huge dog lovers they have used their talents to create an amazing range of dog teas.

There is no doubt from looking at their website that a lot of research and development has gone into the brand, along with the all-important seal of approval from the veterinary world.

Woof and Brew Products

All their teas come in a tonic form and also a tea bag, so you have the convenience of a ready-made product as well as tea bags. None of the

herbs in the product are ground, in order to keep the maximum nutritional benefits for you dog.

Their doggy tea range consists of:

Feel Good Blend

- Supports general well-being
- Rich in minerals and vitamins

Senior Blend

- Helps support joints and mobility
- Aids circulation

Fresh Breath Blend

- Aids natural fresh breath
- Oral and digestive benefits

Skin and Coat Blend

- High in essential fatty acids
- Cleansing properties to help detoxify

Anxiety Blend

- Natural calming and anxiety relief
- Benefits body and mind

Digestion Blend

- Benefits digestive systems
- Formulated for general well being

They also have a range of other products, including a drink to stop your dog's pee burning your lawn and some delicious treats.

Visit www.WoofAndBrew.com

Review of The Dog Treat Company All Natural Dog Treats

Finding healthy dog treats that are all natural can sometimes be challenging, especially at an affordable price. Sometimes we just don't have time to bake anything ourselves and so finding a supplier that can send us all natural dog treats direct to our door can be a real blessing. This is where The Dog Treat Company could be the perfect answer for you and your dog.

Who Are The Dog Treat Company?

The Dog Treat company was born out of the owners own need for healthy dog treats for their dogs. Sick of buying treats full of additives they started making their own treats for their dogs.
Once the recipe was perfected using only the best ingredients they decided to start their own business selling treats to people all over the UK.

What Is Different About Their Dog Treats?

It's clear from the website that they are very committed to good ingredients. All their packaging and promotional material also reinforce the same message.

There is no added salt, no added sugar, no dyes and chemicals and no meat meal.

Instead, they only use human grade ingredients that they would be happy to eat themselves, including chicken liver, vegetables, and herbs and spices.

Their Ethos is

> *If you wouldn't eat it yourself, why would you give it to your best friend?*

What Dog Treats Do They Sell?

Treat Pouches

These are 40g pouches are treats that come in 6 different flavours. You can purchase 4 pouches the same or opt for a mixed pack of pouches.

Original

Liver treats full of vitamins, minerals and amino acids

Run Free

Good for joints and bones.

Calm Moments

To help with relaxation – perfect for chilling out with added chamomile.

Fabulous Fur

For beautiful skin and fur.

Joie De Vivre

For increased vitality and an immunity boost.

Take My Breath Away

For fresh and healthy breath.

Treat Tins

All of the above flavours also come in a 100g tin. You can purchase a set of 3 tins at once in the same flavour. The tins are handy, although I would quite like to see a large pouch instead of the tin as it's much easier to

dispose of.

Happy Boxes

These are a great idea, especially as they should fit through most letter boxes. Each box contains 4 x 60g trays in a range of different flavours.

The names they have given each of the box options are also quite cool.

- Barking Up The Right Treats
- You Can Teach An Old Dog New Treats
- Bright Eyed & Bushy Tailed
- Lean Mean Running Machine
- Hair of the Dog
- Let Sleeping Dogs Lie
- Fussy Pots

My favourite names are Hair of The Dog and Fussy Pots. Love them!

Subscribe and Save

They offer really good discounts for anyone that signs up for 6 months at a time. If your dog loves them, then there are amazing savings to be had by opting for this option. Plus you get the added benefit of them just arriving each month without you having to think about it.

The Verdict

Packaging

I was so impressed with the packaging of the product. The design work and presentation certainly give the feel of a luxury dog treat.

I liked that everything can be resealed and even the box of treats has an empty pouch for you to use if you want to take the treats with you somewhere.

Products

The range of flavours is really good and it's very clear that the company are very focused on promoting that they are healthy treats.

The leaflet that came in the box made it really clear for me to see that I was getting a premium product that was healthy and natural for my dogs.

What Did Joey and Coco Think?

My 2 Pointers were extremely excited when I opened the box, Joey could barely contain himself! Having unpacked everything onto my desk I later caught Joey trying to steal one of the tins of treats. I'm not sure he had thought it through properly as to how he would open the tin!

They both loved them though. Coco is really fussy and she was queuing up for them.

I am not sure that they preferred one flavour over the other, as it was a bit of a frenzy every time I got a new one for them to try. Anyone would think they never got treats!

If you want healthy, natural and affordable treats delivered to your door then I would definitely recommend these. I would also consider opting for the subscribe and save option.

Visit www.TheDogTreatCompany.co.uk

Review Of Pooch & Mutt: Healthy Dog Treats

Who Are Pooch & Mutt?

I always love to learn about pet businesses where the owner has developed something that was originally to try and solve a problem that their own pet had. It shows to me that the company comes from a place of real love for animals. Whether that is because their pet was sick, they needed a solution to meet their pets needs or they just wanted to share the love they have for their pet with everyone.

Pooch & Mutt was founded by Guy Blaskey in 2008 when his dog was diagnosed with hip dysplasia. His mother Clare had a very successful equine supplement company and he tried some of the supplements on

his dog with great results. However, he knew that they really needed to be adapted for dogs.

Now with an impressive list of awards Pooch & Mutt are clearly a leader in their area of expertise.

Benefits Of Pooch & Mutt Dog Treats

Natural Ingredients

What I love most about the treats is that they are all natural, so there is nothing harmful in them for your dog. So many dog foods and treats are full of additives that are not good for your dog, so with an all natural treat / dog food you can be sure that your dog is getting the best possible nutrition.

Approved by PETA

With Pooch & Mutt treats there is no testing on animals. All products are tested on their own dogs or those of friends and family.

Approved by Vets in the UK

The Pooch & Mutt products are approved by vets all over the UK, which is always a good sign that you are dealing with a quality product.

All UK Ingredients

All the ingredients are sourced in the UK, which means that the company can select the best ingredients that are known to then. Production is also managed in the UK.

Pooch and Mutt Hand Baked Dog Treats

We tried a few of the different Pooch & Mutt treats, however, they have a full range of

- Dog Foods
- Treats
- Pocket Packs
- Supplements

You can visit their store and see their full range of

products here

Review Of Pooch & Mutt Dog Treats

I have 2 pointers, Joey who eats most things and Coco who can be quite fussy. She loved the both the Calm and Relaxed and the Health and Digestion Treats.

When I opened the Fresh Breath Treats Coco was a bit unsure, as they are really minty fresh smelling. I was really pleased though that liked them and I liked the slightly larger size of the treats.

I was also interested to see how they would react to the Dog Food, as they both aren't that keen on plain dog biscuits. But they really liked them and I could see these would be handy for my continued struggle to train Joey! He was sitting like an angel for them by the end of it.

I would definitely like to try more of the different products and I have a sample of the Bionic Biotic which I am really hoping will help Joey with his itchy skin in the summer months.

Visit www.PoochAndMutt.com

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