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# Body Condition Score For Dogs

The **Body Condition Score (BCS)** is a tool that allows owners to objectively assess their pet's weight and body condition.

Two systems are generally used

9-Point System

5-Point System

BCS is scored between 1 - 9 with the aim being to maintain your pet at an ideal condition of **5 out of 9**

BCS is scored between 1 - 5 with the aim being to maintain your pet at an ideal condition of **3 out of 5**

Obese dogs often have poor energy levels, a reduced life expectancy and are at an increased risk for a number of serious conditions such as **heart disease, arthritis, diabetes and cancer.**

A dog is classified as obese when it reaches **15-20% over their ideal weight**

Log your pet's weight with Pets on tapp™ and share with your veterinarian



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SCORE	LOCATION FEATURE	VIEW FROM SIDE	VIEW FROM ABOVE	ESTIMATED BODY FAT %
<b>9-POINT</b> <b>1. Emaciated</b>	5-POINT <b>1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribs, spine and pelvis easily visible from a distance. Bones very easily felt with no overlaying fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.</li> <li><b>When viewed from side:</b> abdomen is extremely tucked in.</li> <li><b>When viewed from above:</b> exaggerated waist.</li> </ul>			<b>&lt;4%</b>
<b>3. Thin</b>	<b>2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribs, spine and pelvis discernible from a distance. Bones easily felt with minimal overlaying fat.</li> <li><b>When viewed from side:</b> abdomen is moderately tucked in.</li> <li><b>When viewed from above:</b> marked waist.</li> </ul>			<b>5-15%</b>
<b>5. Ideal</b>	<b>3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribs, spine and pelvis not visible from a distance. Bones easily felt with a thin layer of fat.</li> <li><b>When viewed from side:</b> abdomen is slightly tucked in.</li> <li><b>When viewed from above:</b> well proportioned waist.</li> </ul>			<b>15-25%</b>
<b>6. Slightly Overweight</b>	<b>4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribs, spine and pelvis not visible from a distance. Bones easily felt with a moderate layer of fat.</li> <li><b>When viewed from side:</b> abdomen is less obviously tucked in.</li> <li><b>When viewed from above:</b> less pronounced waist.</li> </ul>			<b>20-30%</b>
<b>8. Obese</b>	<b>5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribs, spine and pelvis not visible from a distance. Bones very difficult to feel with a thick layer of fat.</li> <li><b>When viewed from side:</b> no abdominal tuck, abdomen bulges out.</li> <li><b>When viewed from above:</b> loss of waist with a markedly broad back.</li> </ul>			<b>30-40%</b>

Adapted from FEDIAF Nutritional Guidelines, Aug 2018

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