

Ferret Diet

Ferrets are obligate carnivores. They cannot derive nutrients from plant matter, therefore their diet must be high in animal protein and fat, and low in fiber.

Food passes through their digestive system very quickly, so they need to eat frequently (usually every 3-4 hours). Because of this, it is best to always have food available for your ferret. Most ferrets do well regulating what they eat and will not become overweight.

Types of Ferret Diet

Commercial Kibble

- Do your research, as some commercial ferret kibble is not actually nutritionally complete.
- High quality, high protein, natural, grain free kitten food works well for ferrets since their nutritional requirements are extremely similar.
- Look for a food that is 30-40% protein, 20-30% fat, and very low in carbohydrates (0-3%).

Raw Food Diet

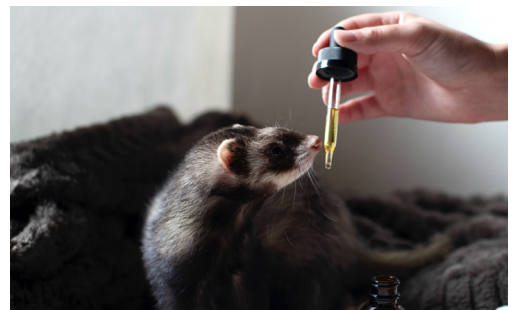
- Raw diet requires lots of research and planning to make sure it is done properly and the diet is balanced.
- If done improperly, it can cause more harm than good.

Treats

Treats should be given in moderation. There are many tasty commercial ferret treats that are great, however make sure they are meat-based and avoid those with grains, vegetables, or sugars. Commercial cat treats are also good. Hard-boiled eggs and bits of meat (raw or cooked) make great treats as well.

Water

Ferrets should always have fresh water available. Very heavy crocks or bowls that lock in place are ideal, otherwise your ferret will tip them over. Water bottles should be avoided because they can easily harbor bacteria and ferrets tend not to drink as much water when using a bottle.



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