

THE CLEAN SIXTEEN®

2026's Highest-Rated Dog Foods for Purity

**clean
label
PROJECT®**
Clean. Pure. Science.

The Clean Label Project® analyzed 79 of the nation's top-selling dog food products to uncover what traditional nutrition labels miss: hidden contaminants like heavy metals, phthalates, acrylamide, and plastic residues.

After over 11,000 tests across dry, freeze-dried, and fresh/frozen dog foods, these products rose to the top—delivering exceptional purity and safety for your four-legged family member.



- Fresh/Frozen Food Wins:** Fresh/Frozen dog food had significantly lower contaminant levels—up to 21x less lead and 20x less mercury than dry dog food.
- Dry Food Concerns:** Dry dog food contained 5.7x more arsenic, 12.7x more lead, and 24x more acrylamide than fresh/frozen alternatives—likely due to meat by-products, mineral premixes, and high-heat processing.
- Human-Grade Matters:** Products labeled "human-grade" or using fresh, whole ingredients consistently tested cleaner across all contaminant categories.
- No Federal Standards:** There are no comprehensive federal regulations on heavy metals in dog food—making independent testing like this essential for pet owners.

What Makes These Dog Foods Stand Out?

- Lowest levels of heavy metals, phthalates, and acrylamide
- Exceptional performance across all six contaminant panels tested
- Commitment to fresh, whole ingredients and transparent sourcing
- Fresh/Frozen and low-temperature cooked products that minimize processing contaminants

Whether you're feeding a puppy or a senior, these are the best choices for a **cleaner, safer bowl.**



CARU



Real Beef Stew Grain-Free Wet Dog Food
Fresh/Frozen

FARMER'S DOG



Beef
Fresh/Frozen

FRESHPET



Select Fresh From The Kitchen Home Cooked Chicken
Fresh/Frozen

FRESHPET



Custom Meals Beef & Chicken Recipe
Fresh/Frozen

HILL'S



Science Diet Small & Mini
Dry

JINX



Homemade Beef & Chicken
Fresh/Frozen

JUSTFOODFORDOGS



Turkey & Whole Wheat Macaroni Recipe
Fresh/Frozen

JUSTFOODFORDOGS



Lamb & Brown Rice Recipe
Fresh/Frozen

MAEV



Raw Food - Variety
Fresh/Frozen

NULO



Gently-Cooked Meals Turkey & Green Beans Recipe
Fresh/Frozen

NULO



Gently-Cooked Meals Duck & Quinoa Recipe
Fresh/Frozen

OLLIE



Pork
Fresh/Frozen

PET PLATE



Barkin Beef Entree
Fresh/Frozen

RAISED RIGHT



Beef & Pumpkin Pate
Fresh/Frozen

SOLID GOLD



Nutrient Boost
Dry

WE FEED RAW



Chicken
Fresh/Frozen

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