

# BODY CONDITIONING SCORING GUIDE FOR DOGS



UNDERWEIGHT

IDEAL

OVERWEIGHT

1		<b>Ribs, lumbar, vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance.</b> No discernible body fat, obvious loss of muscle mass
2		<b>Ribs, lumbar, vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible.</b> No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominences. Minimal loss of muscle mass.
3		<b>Ribs easily palpable and may be visible with no palpable fat.</b> Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waste and abdominal tuck.
4		<b>Ribs easily palpable with minimal fat covering.</b> Waist easily noted when viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.
5		<b>Ribs palpable without excess fat covering.</b> Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked when viewed from side.
6		<b>Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering.</b> Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.
7		<b>Ribs palpable with difficulty; heavy fat cover.</b> Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.
8		<b>Ribs not under very heavy fat cover or palpable only with significant pressure.</b> Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distension may be present.
9		<b>Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail.</b> Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distension.