

AAFCO Nutrient Requirements for Cats

Nutrient (% or per kg of diet)	Growth and Reproduction Minimum	Adult Maintenance Minimum	Adult Maintenance Maximum
Protein (%)	30.0	26.0	
Arginine (%)	1.25	1.04	
Histidine (%)	0.31	0.31	
Isoleucine (%)	0.52	0.52	
Leucine (%)	1.25	1.25	
Lysine (%)	1.20	0.83	
Methionine + cystine (%)	1.10	1.10	
Methionine (%)	0.62	0.62	1.5
Phenylalanine + tyrosine (%)	0.88	0.88	
Phenylalanine (%)	0.42	0.42	
Taurine (extruded, %)	0.10	0.10	
Taurine (canned, %)	0.20	0.20	
Threonine (%)	0.73	0.73	
Tryptophan (%)	0.25	0.16	
Valine (%)	0.62	0.62	
Fat (%)	9.0	9.0	

Nutrient (% or per kg of diet)	Growth and Reproduction Minimum	Adult Maintenance Minimum	Adult Maintenance Maximum
Linoleic acid (%)	0.5	0.5	
Arachidonic acid (%)	0.02	0.02	
Minerals			
Calcium (%)	1.0	0.6	
Phosphorus (%)	0.8	0.5	
Potassium (%)	0.6	0.6	
Sodium (%)	0.2	0.2	
Chloride (%)	0.3	0.3	
Magnesium (%)	0.08	0.04	
Iron (mg/kg)	80	80	
Copper (mg/kg)	5	5	
Iodine (mg/kg)	0.35	0.35	
Zinc (mg/kg)	75	75	2,000
Manganese (mg/kg)	7.5	7.5	
Selenium (mg/kg)	0.1	0.1	
Vitamins			
Vitamin A (IU/kg)	9,000	5,000	750,000

Nutrient (% or per kg of diet)	Growth and Reproduction Minimum	Adult Maintenance Minimum	Adult Maintenance Maximum
Vitamin D (IU/kg)	750	500	10,000
Vitamin E (IU/kg)	30	30	
Vitamin K (mg/kg)	0.1	0.1	
Thiamine (mg/kg)	5.0	5.0	
Riboflavin (mg/kg)	4.0	4.0	
Pyridoxine (mg/kg)	4.0	4.0	
Niacin (mg/kg)	60	60	
Pantothenic acid (mg/kg)	5.0	5.0	
Folic acid (mg/kg)	0.8	0.8	
Biotin (mg/kg)	0.07	0.07	
Vitamin B ₁₂ (mg/kg)	0.02	0.02	
Choline (mg/kg)	2,400	2,400	

^a Nutrient requirements are indicated on a dry-matter basis and are per kg of diet, *not* per kg of body weight of animal. These AAFCO nutrient profiles for cat foods presume an energy density of 4 kcal ME/g dry matter. Rations >4.5 kcal/g should be corrected for energy density.