

## Why no food bowl?

### **A dog with a job is a wonderful thing.**

Feeding from chewtoys and puzzle toys is a form of occupational therapy for dogs. It keeps them busy doing the right thing so they are less likely to busy themselves with undesirable behaviors such as being destructive in the house, recreational barking, begging at tables and pestering guests.

Providing them with legal outlets for their energy makes you the good guy too. Everyone wins!

A meal coming from a food bowl might take the dog 2 minutes at the most to consume. This leaves the dog at a loss for what to do with the rest of the day. In a quest for entertainment the dog might conduct experiments on oriental rugs, expensive couches, plants, remote controls, antique tables ...the list goes on. On the other hand a dog that is fed from chew toys and/or puzzle toys spends blissful hours chewing on his stuffed bones and kongs and content and busy being rewarded for rolling around food dispensing interactive toys.

### *What is a chewtoy?*

A chewtoy is an object that is edible in part or whole. It is a pacifier of sorts for the dog. Our favorites are the reuseable types e.g Kongs and hollow sterilized white bones. Kongs come in a variety of sizes.

Both chewtoys are available from nearly every pet store.

## Instructions for feeding meals in kongs

We recommend using either medium/ large or extra large kongs when feeding meals from kongs. An extra large kong can hold almost a whole 13oz can of wet dog food.

If are you feeding your dog wet food or a mixture of wet and dry food simply spoon the mixture into a kong or several kongs depending on the size of the meal.

**Tip:** loosely pack the kongs initially to make it easy for your dog to extract the food and place the kongs in your dog's crate or confinement area to avoid any mess.

## Using Kongs as pacifiers

In between meals when you need to provide your dog with a job use the chewtoys as pacifiers. Smear small amounts (1/2 tsp) of high value foodstuffs on the inside walls of the chewtoy. Peanut butter, liverwurst, american cheese, cream cheese, canned dog food are favorites.

If the puppy finishes these projects in record time, make it last longer by freezing the stuffed chewtoys for a couple of hours.