Feeder and Waterer FAQs

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

- What are the advantages of an automatic waterer?
- Are automatic waterers difficult to maintain?
- Which bowl type is the most sanitary?
- What is the advantage of a narrow, deep bowl as opposed to a shallow, wide bowl?
- Would you recommend an elevated feeder?
- Is assembly required on elevated feeders?
- Can I put my dog's ceramic bowls in the dishwasher?
- How can I prevent my dog from sliding his dish all over the room?

What are the advantages of an automatic waterer?
Pets that stay hydrated remain healthier. Pets are more likely to drink from a bowl of fresh, clean water than from a stagnant source. An automatic waterer requires no separate water line and uses little electricity. The water continuously circulates through a filter, keeping the water fresher, more aerated, and free of bacteria to keep your pet coming back for more and more.

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Are automatic waterers difficult to maintain?
The only difference is that automatic waterers usually contain a filter, which must be changed every couple of months. Also, cleaning may require disassembly.
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Which bowl type is the most sanitary?
Due to its non-porous construction, stainless steel remains the most sanitary bowl to use. It is used in many kennels and veterinary offices. It is also highly recommended for pets with allergic dermatitis to materials like plastic or those with dyes.
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What is the advantage of a narrow, deep bowl as opposed to a shallow, wide bowl?
Deep bowls are helpful for keeping the long, floppy ears of some breeds out of the water bowl, yet still have the capacity of a shallower, wider bowl.
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Would you recommend an elevated feeder?
Veterinarians recommend elevated feeders for dogs and cats for a number of reasons: hygiene and cleanliness, comfort for dogs and cats with arthritis or neck or back problems, and for the benefits to cats and dogs with megaesophagus or other conditions that make swallowing difficult. If your dog is at risk for developing bloat (gastric dilation and volvulus - GDV), contact your veterinarian before using an elevated feeder for your dog.
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Is assembly required on elevated feeders?
Minor assembly is required on some of our elevated feeders. You must attach the legs and place the bowls.
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Can I put my dog's ceramic bowls in the dishwasher?
All of the stoneware dishes we offer are safe to go in the dishwasher for sterilization.
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How can I prevent my dog from sliding his dish all over the room?
Find a dog bowl with rubber feet on the bottom to keep it from slipping as your dog eats. To prevent water from splashing out, you may wish to consider a bowl that contains a lip around the top edge to prevent spill-out when the bowl is bumped.
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