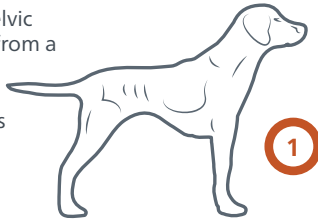


Being aware of your dogs' body condition score (BCS) can help you keep your dog(s) at an ideal weight, which is crucial for their health and longevity. Dogs are typically rated on a scale of 1 to 9, with 1 being emaciated and 9 being obese. Use these guidelines as a starting point in your furry friends' weight management.

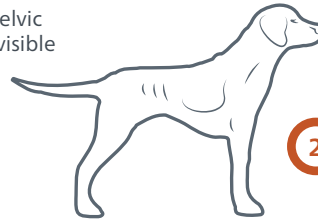
## UNDERWEIGHT

- Ribs, spine and pelvic bones are visible from a distance
- No visible body fat or muscle mass



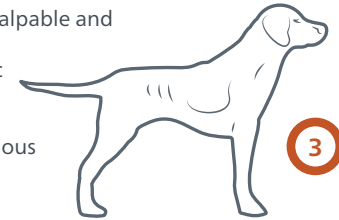
1

- Ribs, spine and pelvic bones are easily visible
- No obvious fat and very minimal muscle mass



2

- Ribs are easily palpable and may be visible
- Spine and pelvic bones are visible
- Dog has an obvious waist line and abdominal tuck



3

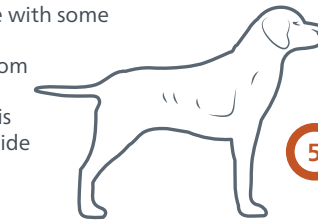
## IDEAL

- Ribs are easily palpable with minimal fat covering
- Waist is easily visible from above
- Abdominal tuck is clearly defined



4

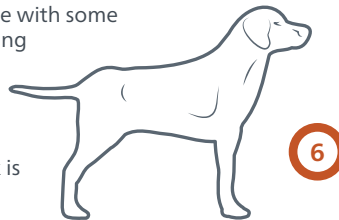
- Ribs are palpable with some fat covering
- Waist is visible from above
- Abdominal tuck is visible from the side



5

## OVERWEIGHT

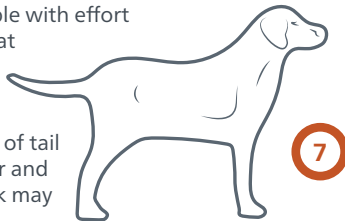
- Ribs are palpable with some excess fat covering
- Waist is visible from above but less prominent
- Abdominal tuck is visible



6

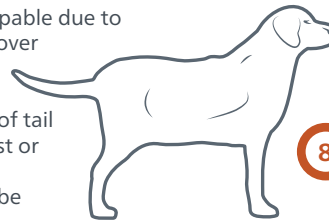
## OBESE

- Ribs are palpable with effort due to excess fat covering
- Visible fat deposits over spine and base of tail
- Waist is unclear and abdominal tuck may be absent



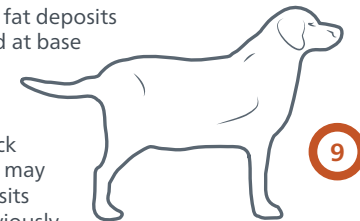
7

- Ribs are not palpable due to significant fat cover
- Heavy fat deposits over spine and base of tail
- No defined waist or abdominal tuck
- Abdomen may be distended



8

- Dog has large fat deposits over spine and at base of tail
- No defined waist or abdominal tuck
- Neck and legs may have fat deposits
- Abdomen obviously distended



9

### Tips for managing your dog's weight:

1. Work with your veterinarian or animal nutritionist to feed a dog food that meets the needs of your individual dog by taking breed, age and exercise intensity into account.
2. Prioritize daily exercise for your dog! Healthy movement stimulates blood flow, promotes joint health and helps keep weight in check. Exercise can take many forms, from hunting to daily walks to playing fetch or swimming!
3. Minimize table scraps, treats and other sources of excess calories to support good dog gut health and optimal weight.