



Template: Quality Ingredients Checklist

Generated: 4/22/2026

Based on Article: "Top 5 Myths About Quality Ingredients Debunked"

Website: <https://therenownedhound.com>

A practical checklist to effectively evaluate the quality of pet food ingredients and sourcing.

Checklist Items:

- 1. Check the First Ingredients**
Look for the first few ingredients in the list. They make up the bulk of the formula and should be high-quality sources of protein and nutrients.
Reference Section: Myth 1: If a food is expensive, it must be high quality
- 2. Verify Ingredient Clarity**
Ensure ingredients are clearly named, like 'chicken' instead of vague fillers. This indicates transparency in sourcing.
Reference Section: Myth 1: If a food is expensive, it must be high quality
- 3. Assess Nutritional Balance**
Evaluate if the food meets your pet's specific health needs. A good protein source must be part of a balanced diet.
Reference Section: Myth 1: If a food is expensive, it must be high quality
- 4. Investigate Ingredient Sourcing Claims**
Look for specifics behind terms like 'natural' or 'human-grade.' These should be backed by clear sourcing statements.
Reference Section: Myth 2: Ingredient sourcing is just marketing language
- 5. Scrutinize Marketing Language**
Don't be fooled by marketing terms. Read labels closely to find out what the recipe truly consists of, rather than relying on catchy phrases.
Reference Section: Myth 2: Ingredient sourcing is just marketing language
- 6. Evaluate Protein Source Quality**
Understand how the protein is sourced. The quality of meat, its moisture content, and processing methods impact its nutritional value.
Reference Section: Myth 3: All meat-based dog food is equally nutritious
- 7. Review Storage and Handling Practices**
Research how the food is preserved and stored. Proper handling is critical for maintaining safety, taste, and nutrition.
Reference Section: Myth 2: Ingredient sourcing is just marketing language

8. Question Claims of 'No Fillers'

Review the complete ingredient list to ensure that each component is essential and serves a nutritional purpose.

Reference Section: Myth 2: Ingredient sourcing is just marketing language