

Okay hear me out – it *might* be time to start feeding your cats wet food. Hey, I get it; I’m a legacy dry food Truther. My family were kibble people through and through. I’m not so evolved to say that my schedule being beholden to the whims of an 8lb creature’s appetite doesn’t sound a *little* annoying.

I’ve been around! Hands in the air – I’ve heard the arguments, and, if I’m bearing my soul here, I’ve perpetuated a few of them. “Dry food is easier; dry food doesn’t smell bad; dry food is so much cheaper; cats don’t care what they’re eating; yadda, yadda, yadda.”

EXTREMELY LOUD AND INCORRECT BUZZER

Cats do care what they’re eating! My cat gets *noticeably* more excited about wet food. He goes hog-wild over it! And guess what Big Kibble didn’t want me to know? It takes the same amount of time to open one measly little packet as it does to pour a bowl of dry food. Maybe this is just my guy, but the way he was eating, I filled his bowl morning and night regardless of whether he was free-feeding or not. After experimenting with different brands, I also realized any potential smell was more pleasant than that of the ultra-processed seafood cereal I was serving. Now, I’m not going to get on my soap box about the current price of pet food. But, when comparing the non-luxury, high quality dry vs. wet foods, I was surprised to find there wasn’t a huge difference!

In the effort of transparency, I wouldn’t have even considered looking into this without my vet extolling the benefits of incorporating wet food. She said, to nobody’s surprise, that my cat was a little chunky. I started adding clean stews and shreds in broth (I still think pâté is the pet food equivalent to school lunch mystery meat), and in 6 months he lost a whole pound! Plus, now he’s eating a more interesting and balanced diet!

My childhood cat, who still lives with my parents, is a delicate and ancient lady who’s had some persistent health concerns. After enough proselytizing every time I came home, my mom finally switched her to wet food. She’s always had greasy fur and dandruff (likely due to chronic dehydration), and her skin is entirely clear now! Her energy levels are through the roof; she’s a visibly different cat! It’s mind-boggling how much more vibrant she is, and all I can say is that I wish we’d have made the switch sooner.

I’m not going to tell you to buy some crazy cat food subscription or try to guilt you into avoiding processed pet foods altogether. We live in an imperfect world, and sometimes all you can do is give your cat a little bit of shredded chicken from time to time. If they’re going to yell like you’ve never fed them a day in their sorry little life every time 8am rolls around, you might as well feed them something fun.