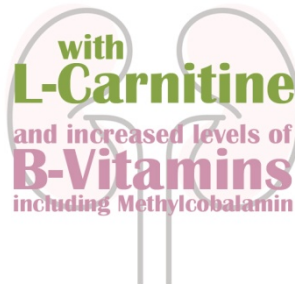


user guide



TCfeline
SPECIAL
FORMULA



TCFeline Special Formula
for making homemade cat food
for your special adult cat

Ingredients: Whey Protein Isolate, Calcium Carbonate, dehydrated Antarctic Krill, Taurine, L-Carnitine, Feline Future B Complex (Choline L-Bitartrate, Niacin, D-Calcium Pantothenate, Methylcobalamin, Thiamine Mononitrate, Pyridoxine HCl, Riboflavin, Folic Acid, D-Biotin), Iron Bisglycinate, Vitamin A Palmitate, D-Alpha Tocopheryl Succinate (Vitamin E), Vitamin D3, Potassium Iodide.

TCfeline Special Formula is formulated without gelatin and bone. Bone is added to diets as a source of calcium and phosphorus. Gelatin intends to mimic the skin and connective tissue of prey. By relying on phosphorus from meat alone and balancing it with calcium from calcium carbonate, the cat food made with *TCfeline Special Formula* is a diet lower in Phosphorus and lower overall ash content than a diet prepared using TCFeline Original premix and raw diets prepared with fresh bone. This makes using *TCfeline Special Formula* ideal for preparing a homemade diet reduced in Phosphorus for adult cats 12 years and older, as well as cats with Chronic Kidney Disease IRIS (International Renal Interest Society) Stage 1, 2, and 3.

It is not a Phosphorus restricted diet, and there is no need to obtain your veterinarian's consent to use *TCfeline Special Formula*. The diet prepared with *TCfeline Special Formula* is formulated to meet the nutritional levels established by the AAFCO Cat Food Profiles for adult maintenance, and meets the recommended allowance of nutrient requirements of adult cats for maintenance established by the National Research Council (NRC).

***TCfeline Special Formula* is not for kittens or pregnant or lactating cats!**

TCfeline Special Formula is not suitable for kittens or adolescent cats or pregnant or lactating cats, because it is too low in Phosphorus. Growing cats or pregnant or lactating cats have high nutritional requirement for Calcium, Phosphorus, and Magnesium to support normal growth, bone development, and milk production. Please use *TCfeline Original* for kittens and expecting cats.

Lower in phosphorus for kidney disease:

Without bone and gelatin, *TCfeline Special Formula* is lower in Phosphorus than a diet made using *TCfeline Original* or a raw diet made with fresh bone. A diet reduced in Phosphorus is recommended for cats 12 years old and up, because it is likely that an aging related decline in kidney function is occurring. Up to 40% of cats over 10 years old and 80% of cats over 15 years old have CKD. With typical blood tests up to 75% of kidney function has to be lost before it can be detected. The new SDMA test has the potential of detecting declining kidney function sooner. Cats do not show any symptoms until two thirds of kidney function is lost. For cats with CKD, a reduced Phosphorus diet is an essential part of their maintenance plan.

CKD cannot be cured with any diet, but diet can be a means to delay kidney disease for as long as possible. Diet can also help manage symptoms of CKD, along with the guidance from your veterinarian, fluid therapy, and medication. Dietary Phosphorus or dietary protein are not implicated in the **cause** of kidney disease. Kidney disease cannot be **prevented** by feeding a low Phosphorus or low protein diet earlier in the cat's life. However, when aging related changes caused by oxidative stress and inflammation in the kidneys have replaced a large amount of normal filtration function, dietary Phosphorus appears to accelerate decline of kidney function if not reduced. Reduction of protein only plays a possible role in IRIS Stage 4 of CKD, and should be supervised by your veterinarian. Otherwise, healthy adult cats and cats in IRIS Stage 1-2 should not have the protein in their diet reduced, because older cats have protein requirements similar to kittens due to an ageing related decrease in the ability to absorb certain nutrients.

Lower in overall mineral (ash) content to help prevent bladder stones

Using *TCfeline Special Formula* is not a treatment for bladder stones, but a diet reduced in overall mineral content by omission of excess calcium, phosphorus, and magnesium from bone source in the diet can be helpful in the prevention of bladder stones. The causes of bladder stones in cats vary, but a diet high in protein and moisture, and reduced in the minerals Calcium, Phosphorus, and Magnesium is universally applied to help prevent them. A diet high in protein and lower in Calcium can help lower urine pH. A diet reduced in Phosphorus and Magnesium means less of these minerals are excreted in urine where they can potentially form crystalline form in the bladder. A diet high in moisture means more urine output and more frequent flushing of the bladder before stones can grow too big.

Fortified with Vitamin A, D, B Complex and Iron, making addition of raw liver not necessary.

TCfeline Special Formula is fortified with Vitamin A, D, B Complex and Iron, and does not require addition of raw liver as a source for these essential nutrients. Fresh, raw liver is a concentrated, natural source for many essential vitamins and trace minerals, and is something the cat would naturally consume with prey every day, but inclusion of raw liver in the homemade diet is an obstacle for many users and for some cats. *TCfeline Special Formula* makes it possible to create a diet without the need to add liver. In the event that inclusion of some raw liver is necessary for flavour, to assure the cat will eat the food, it is safe to add 50 g or 1/4 cup liver to any of the recipes listed in this **User Guide**.

Potassium

TCfeline Special Formula is purposefully not fortified with Potassium. It contains naturally occurring potassium from food ingredients and meets the nutritional requirement for Potassium of adult cats per AAFCO Nutrient Profiles and data by NRC.

Some cats with CKD lose Potassium from excess urination or because too much Aldosterone hormone is released as part of kidney disease, which causes Potassium loss. However, most cats with CKD, especially when the disease is more advanced, have a problem with too much Potassium retained due to inability of the kidneys to filter it out of the blood. Too much potassium is toxic and can cause muscle weakness and heart failure. Therefore, consult with your veterinarian if your cat requires supplemental Potassium, which can only be determined with a blood test. I strongly advise against the use of over-the-counter "Kidney Supplements" that supply Potassium, herbs, or Calcium intended as Phosphorus blockers.

Phosphorus Blockers

TCfeline Special Formula contains Calcium Carbonate. It serves to balance Phosphorus in the meat to create a balanced diet. It also serves as a source of Calcium for normal body functions. There is enough Calcium Carbonate in *TCfeline Special Formula* to act as a low dose Phosphorus blocker, together with naturally occurring Chitosan, a Phosphorus binder, from krill. The lowered levels of Phosphorus in the diet by design of the ingredients and action by Calcium Carbonate is not a problem for healthy cat **without** CKD. Healthy adult cats will not suffer a Phosphorus deficiency or excess Calcium intake when eating a homemade diet prepared with *TCfeline Special Formula*.

Cats with CKD have difficulty regulating Calcium and Phosphorus in the blood and can suffer an excess of either, because the kidneys have trouble filtering and excreting unneeded Phosphorus and Calcium. On the other hand, the kidneys of CKD cats are often not able to synthesize enough Calcitriol (active Vitamin D) to absorb Calcium, sending the Parathyroid Gland in overdrive for lack of Calcitriol and excess serum Phosphorus, causing Secondary Hyperparathyroidism which can leave the cat in a state of too little serum Calcium. Without blood test, however, it is impossible to know if your cat with CKD suffers the effect of excess Phosphorus, excess Calcium, or lack of Calcium. Therefore, consult with your veterinarian if your cat requires additional Phosphorus binders, treatment for excess Calcium, or supplemental Calcitriol.

Symptoms of too little or too much Potassium, too little or too much Calcium, or too much Phosphorus universally present as weakness, nausea, loss of appetite and heart problems. The cat parent should not attempt to diagnose or treat on their own, because it may result in making the problem worse. Without blood test it is simply impossible to know what electrolyte imbalance your cat with CKD is dealing with.

TCfeline Special Formula is fortified **with L-Carnitine**, a vitamin like amino acid normally synthesized in the kidneys. Patients with CKD often experience a deficiency of L-Carnitine. Supplementation can help restore normal energy production, help with fat metabolism, help prevent protein-energy wasting, help prevent oxidative damage to kidneys, and help improve anemia. These attributes also help older cats without CKD.

It is very important to keep cats with CKD eating and consuming their daily requirement of calories by all means necessary, even assist (force) feeding, to prevent them from metabolizing their muscle mass, which will make their condition much worse. When choosing extra lean meats to prepare the cat food, like skinless poultry breast meats, subtract 90 gram from the 900 gram meat portion and replace with 90 gram **unsalted** butter. This will bolster the caloric density of the food. The butter can be stirred melted into the water-premix mixture before adding the meat. To maximize calorie density of the food to assure that cats with CKD meet their caloric requirement with as little food as possible, refrain from adding more water to the food. If additional hydration is required on advise by a veterinarian because a CKD patient has trouble maintaining hydration by drinking from the water bowl, it is best to administer fluids by the subcutaneous route.

Nutritional information *TCfeline Special Formula* per 20g premix

(values are for the premix powder only and not for the finished food)

Guaranteed Analysis:

Weight	20 g
Moisture	4.5%
Energy	56.6 Cal/20g
Fat	0.86 g
Protein	10.6 g
Ash	6.08 g
Crude Fiber	0.80 g
Carbohydrates	1.6 g
Calcium	2,235 mg
Phosphorus	65 mg
Potassium	54 mg
Sodium	49 mg
Magnesium	27 mg
Iron	10.6 mg
Copper	1.3 mg
Manganese	3.4 mg
Zinc	0.140 mg

Fortified with:

Taurine	1,756 mg
L-Carnitine	800 mg
Vitamin A	14,274IU
Vitamin D	329 IU
Vitamin E	43.5
Thiamine (B1)	7.5 mg
Riboflavin (B2)	5.4 mg
Niacinamide (B3)	54 mg
Vitamin B5	10.5 mg
Vitamin B6	3.3 mg
Biotin (B7)	102 mcg
Folic Acid (B9)	1 mg
Vitamin B12	90 mcg
Choline	499 mg
Iodine	2.4 mg

Preparation instructions

Use a digital food scale to measure ingredients by weight. When resorting to using volume measurement, the amounts can only be approximates.

Recipe #1

Suitable for any healthy adult cats, ideal for older cats to help preserve kidney function, ideal for cats in IRIS Stage 1, 2, and 3 Chronic Kidney Disease. 0.58% Phosphorus on a dry matter basis.

- 20 g (3 level tablespoons) *TCfeline Special Formula*
- 1/4 tsp table salt if intended for cats w/o CKD
- 250 ml (1 cup) water
- 900 g lean ground raw meat (no bone and organs).

Yields 9 portions of approximately 130g each

Recipe with butter and cooked yam

Reduced in protein by 36% and suitable for cats with IRIS stage 4 Chronic Kidney Disease. Below 0.5% Phosphorus on a dry matter basis. Some cats do not like this recipe or belch from this recipe due to the high fat content. In that case, it is advised to resort to a Veterinary prescription kidney diet.

- 30g *TCfeline Special Formula* (measure by weight for accuracy)
- 250 ml (236g or 1 cup) distilled water
- 1-2 capsules Omega 3 fish oil
- 700g EXTRA lean ground meat (no bone and organs).
- 400g yam, steam-cooked and pureed (energy from carbohydrates)
- 80g UNSALTED butter, whipped into hot yam (source of energy from fat)

Yields a total of 1446 g of food or 12 daily portions of 120 each. Each 120 g portion contains approximately:

- 190 kcal | 82 g (86 ml or 69%) water
- 738 mg Calcium Carbonate
- 90 mg L-Carnitine
- 11.7 g of protein | 12 g (10%) fat | 9 g carbohydrates

Recipe with cooked meat

Because *TCfeline Special Formula* is fortified with vitamins, it is suitable for use with cooked meats, as long as the premix is added after the meat has been cooked and cooled. The premix contains heat sensitive nutrients that would be destroyed during cooking, leading to a diet deficient in important nutrients.

In some instances it is necessary to feed a cooked diet. Poultry meats are always safer when fed cooked. For the recipe below you can steam cook 900g of raw, boneless, skinless lean meat in pieces, like chicken thighs, or lean ground meat. In a steamer pot, steam cook the meat for 15-20 minutes or until internal temperature is at 165C (74F). Alternatively, buy or use 840 g already cooked meat, like meat stripped off a BBQ chicken from the grocery store deli.

- 20g *TCfeline Special Formula*
- 1/4 tsp table salt if intended for cats w/o CKD
- 250 ml (1 cup)
- cooked meat (read above)

Yields 9 portions of approximately 130g each.

This User Guide was last revised September 9th, 2025

Store the pouch of premix in a dry, cool place. Can be frozen to prolong freshness. Hand-made in Canada from domestic and imported ingredients by



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