



Introducing Foraging to your Pet



Your pet is very clever and capable of succeeding at most (if not all) foraging toys or puzzles. However, an animal that is used to eating out of a bowl, isn't automatically going to figure out how to get their food out of a toy without a little bit of guidance.

Be sure to 'gradually introduce' a toy and ensure that your pet isn't getting stuck or frustrated with it. By starting the toy on a really easy level and teaching your pet how to use it, they will gain confidence and continue to learn and use the toy as you make it more difficult or introduce new challenges. Foraging is very much a training experience, reward and encourage your pet when they're doing well and if they're struggling, help them out rather than getting frustrated that they don't understand straight away. This will create trust and a stronger bond between you.

Some tips to introducing a new foraging toy:

- Place food/treats around the new toy so it's easy to access, to attract your pet to the toy and associate it with food. Maybe place the foraging toy next to their food bowl too.
- Show your pet how to use the toy. eg. roll the food ball slowly in front of them to show the food coming out. Tilt or wobble the toy with the weighted base to release some treats.
- Repeat each step or level multiple times. Pets learn from consistency & repetition – once isn't often enough.
- Introduce the toy as the easiest possible level – in toys with adjustable openings, open it right up so that food can be accessed easily. For puzzles, you can even leave the toy open, with the treat accessible so your pet knows where it will be and that they CAN get to it.
- Let your pet 'win' – set them up for success! Don't increase the difficulty until they've had a few turns of doing it well.
- Always supervise your pets with new toys and ensure they are able to use them safely.
- Make sure your pet has access to food and don't 'force' foraging while they're learning. Once they can confidently use the toy, you can put their whole meal in it.

Once your pet is doing well at their new foraging toy, it might be time to introduce another toy or puzzle. Feeding their meal, split between multiple foraging toys is great for your pet physically and mentally. Work towards having enough options to rotate around for some variety.

Please see the '[Information & Tips](#)' page of the website for examples of individual products and how to introduce them to your pet.



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