



Kitten Advice

If you're thinking about or have already welcomed a new kitten into your home, here's some advice on how to help him or her settle in and look after their health.



BEFORE YOUR KITTEN ARRIVES

Secure any areas in the room you don't want a kitten to enter - from cupboards to secret hiding holes and make sure he or she can't escape outside. Pick a quiet area and make sure they have the following items nearby.

- An area for food and a separate one for water
- A litter tray placed away from their food area (in a quiet location)
- A place to hide – a cardboard box or cat igloo
- Access to a high spot – kittens love to climb and look around from up high
- A suitable space to sleep, either with blankets or a cosy bed
- A scratching post
- A few kitten-safe toys to keep them entertained

For further advice on how to settle your kitten in and introduce them to the family, see the following link:

[Bringing a new kitten home | Help and advice | Cats Protection](#)



VACCINATION

We recommend vaccinating your kitten to protect against Feline Calicivirus and Feline Herpesvirus (cat flu), Feline Panleukopenia and Feline Leukemia Virus. These are all diseases that can be very dangerous, or even fatal to your kitten.



The first vaccination can be given from 8 weeks, the second 3-4 weeks later. We advise keeping your kitten inside for at least a week after their second vaccination.

Useful Links

<https://www.cats.org.uk/help-and-advice/pregnancy-and-kitten-care/bringing-a-new-kitten-home>



FLEAS & WORMS

As kittens can be infected with worms via their mother's milk, we advise monthly worming until 6 months old. Flea treatment is also important to prevent your house from becoming infested and protect your kitten from these parasites that can suck enough blood to make them anemic.

We will recommend the appropriate flea and worm treatments that are tailor made for your pets individual lifestyle and risks - just speak to a member of our team.



NEUTERING

Cats become sexually mature at about 6 months old. We recommend neutering between 4-6 months to stop unwanted pregnancies in the females, straying fighting and spraying in males.



MICROCHIPPING

Microchipping is very important for cats as they often roam large distances and farther than you may think! As of June 2024, it is a legal requirement to microchip your kitten and we recommend this at either their 2nd vaccination or at neutering. It is very quick and most kittens don't even notice it's been done.



PET HEALTH PLAN

Our Pet Health Plan is a monthly subscription providing all of your cats preventative healthcare at a regular fixed cost. It includes all their vaccinations, our recommended flea and worm treatments which can be home delivered and unlimited free consultations with a vet or nurse. For more information and pricing, please visit our website or follow this link:

[Newton Clarke | Pet Health Plans](#)



INSURANCE

We always want to provide the best possible treatment for your pet, especially during a stressful time when they may have unexpectedly become seriously unwell or injured. We recommend insurance not only for your peace of mind but so we don't need to compromise on treatment options and can provide the best available care when your pet needs it most.

Although we cannot recommend a particular insurance company, here are some things to look out for:

- Lifelong cover – without this, any condition your pet suffers will be excluded after 1 year
- Insurance limit – we suggest a minimum of £4000 per condition, per year
- Excesses and co-contributions may be required so please read the small print.
- Pet insurance policies vary enormously and cheaper policies may not provide the level of cover you require, potentially costing you more in the long run.



FOOD

We recommend feeding pre-prepared, complete and high-quality food designed for kittens in 3 meals a day until they are 6 months old. Start by giving the same food as the breeder for a few days, making any changes slowly. It is a matter of personal preference as to whether you feed dry food, wet, or a combination of both but don't change it too often – your cat is more likely to get an upset tummy and / or become a fussy eater!

Fresh water should always be available; milk is not necessary. If you have more than one cat, feed them in separate areas and put their water and litter trays away from the food.



ORAL HEALTH

It is a good idea to get your cat comfortable with having his or her teeth cleaned, as this may reduce the chance of dental disease in the future which can not only be painful for your cat but costly to treat. If you would like a demonstration on how to clean your kitten's teeth, please make an appointment with one of our nurses. If cleaning your cat's teeth isn't something you feel able to do, feeding a good quality dry diet can help reduce plaque buildup.

