

## TOILET TRAINING

Place your new kitten's litter tray in a quiet spot that is easy for the kitten to locate, and remember to reward good behaviour. Give your kitten praise and a treat when it goes to the toilet in the right spot. If any little accidents occur, clean it up immediately with a stain remover, in a liquid or powder formula. Do not use ammonia or acidic-based cleaners or detergents. Do not scold, smack or rub your kitten's nose in the mess. If these accidents continue, you may need a second litter tray, or you may need to replace the litter in the existing one more frequently.

**IN ORDER TO KEEP YOUR KITTEN IN TOP CONDITION, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- Premium pet food** – Innova, Evo, Healthwise or California Natural.
- Food scoop** – to measure all food portions.
- Stainless steel bowl for food** – strong, durable and easy to keep clean.
- Ceramic bowl for water** – keeps water cool, refreshing and is too heavy to be tipped over.

- Worming tablets** – to prevent intestinal worms.
- Flea treatments** – spot on type for monthly control.
- Cat litter tray** – enclosed pans are strongly recommended.
- Litter liners** – for easy disposal of used litter.
- Litter scoop** – to scoop up all clumps.
- Litter** – either silicon or clumping variety
- Brush and comb** – suitable for your kitten's coat.
- Shampoo** – to keep your kitten's coat clean
- Bedding** – for a comfortable night sleep.
- Catnip** – can be added to toys/cat scratchers, bubble blowers are great fun.
- Cat scratching post** – keeps claws trim and neat.
- Safety collar** – specifically for cats.
- Name tag and bell** – for easy identification, and a bell also warns birds and other wildlife.
- Harness and lead** – used when taking your kitten for walks.
- Assorted toys** – to exercise and amuse your new kitten, and prevent boredom.
- Carry crate and fleecy blanket** – for safe and comfortable transportation.
- Outdoor play run** – Keeping your cat in a safe playing environment.
- Training aids** – anti scratch tape, repellent and anti-chew
- Doors** – wide variety of self-open/closing doors.
- Stain and odour control** – for those little accidents, or litter smells.
- Hair remover** – a great way to remove unwanted hair from clothing and furniture.
- Assorted treatments** – ear and eye cleaners, toothbrush and paste.



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## KITTEN CARE

how to **keep**  
your **pets**  
healthy

pet care guide



# pet care guide

## CARING FOR YOUR KITTEN



The transition to your home can be stressful for your new kitten. Pre-planning can minimise the stress and help your kitten settle into your home. Have a bed set up, and the kitten's bowl filled with water. Offer the correct amount of food at normal feeding time (at least an hour after getting home to allow for some settling in time). Have some toys for the kitten to play with. Treat your kitten in a similar way as you would a 6 month old baby.

### **Kittens need:**

- Not too much of any one thing
- Plenty of rest
- A nice warm dry place of their own
- Avoid excessive car travel, particularly in the first few weeks

## FEEDING YOUR KITTEN

We recommend your kitten be fed our range of Natura foods. These are premium foods that supply nutrients, vitamins and calcium that are essential for the healthy development of your kitten. The Natura range does not contain chemical preservatives, by-products, cheap fillers, or corn products that are known to cause skin irritation. These ingredients are common in almost all commercially prepared pet foods. It is very important that you keep your kitten on the same diet, as this will help prevent gastric problems associated with sudden changes in diet and environment. Ask our staff for more details on the entire range of Natura products available. **NEVER GIVE YOUR KITTEN MILK OR MILK PRODUCTS as kittens are lactose intolerant and cannot drink milk. Provide them with fresh water at all times.**

## VETERINARY CARE

Once you have received your kitten, you must have your kitten seen within 48 hours of purchase by a qualified veterinarian. If this has not been previously organised, please ring the vet now to make an appointment. Our staff can recommend a local vet.

## DESEXING

Whilst at the clinic, ask the veterinarian about desexing and at what age it is the safest to have this procedure.

## VACCINATIONS

It is important to maintain a vaccination program. Although vaccinations do not stop disease, they do help the kitten develop its immune system. Your kitten's next vaccination date is recorded on a vaccination card, and is required for Feline Enteritis and Cat Flu. Protection may take anywhere up to 14 days after the third vaccination before it becomes effective.

## INTESTINAL WORMING

As a guide, your kitten should be wormed every 2 weeks until 12 weeks old, then every month until 6 months old and then every 3 months for the rest of their life.

## HEARTWORM

Although rarer in cats than dogs, monthly treatments are available. These products will also treat fleas.



## GROOMING

Regular grooming is good for your new kitten as it removes hair and helps to prevent furballs, knots and tangling. This will also reduce pet hair left around the house. If you introduce your kitten to grooming at an early age, he/she will grow to enjoy the feeling.

## COLLAR

A safety collar is best for your new kitten. As cats like to climb, they can often get themselves in tricky situations. The safety collar allows them to free themselves should they become entangled. Fit your new kitten with a collar within the first few days of bringing it home so it becomes accustomed to it. The safety collar is adjustable, so as your new kitten grows bigger, you can adjust the collar accordingly. Get a tag made with your kitten's name, address and phone number to help the return of your kitten if lost. Extra bells on the collar will also help avoid stepping on your kitten, and act as a preventative to bird catching if your cat is outside.

## FLEA CONTROL

Not only do fleas make your kitten itchy, and have the ability to pass on worms to your kitten, they are a common cause of skin allergies. Fleas generally spend only 5-10% of the time on the animal, the rest of the time is spent in the environment. To solve this, there are programs you can use to help your kitten remain "flea-free". In all cases regular attention is the key.

**FLEA COMB:** Once other treatments have been applied, finish with combing your pet's coat. This will remove all dead fleas, unhatched eggs, dirt and larvae from the coat.

**MONTHLY FLEA DROPS:** Kills fleas on the kitten, as well as preventing any unhatched eggs from hatching. This is one of the most convenient forms of flea control available.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FLEA CONTROL:** This will kill fleas and flea eggs that are living in your home. Fleas live and breed in your carpet, curtains, bedding and furniture. It is important that you read the instructions on the product before you start as this must be used correctly.

## REGISTRATION

Please contact your local council for information on registering your new kitten. Microchipping is essential for the safety of your kitten. For more information or advice on microchipping please consult your local vet.