

Preparing For Your Cat or Kitten

Congratulations on your new furry family member! Here are some tips to get you started and keep them healthy and safe.

Supplies:

Food and water bowls

Bedding

Scratching post

Litter box, scoop and litter (one box per cat/kitten)

Carrier

Food (dry and/or wet - check with your vet)

Toys (mice, balls, wand toy, laser pointer)

Optional:

Treats (for older cats only)

Grooming tools

Cat/Kitten Proofing:

Cats and kittens are curious, playful and often mischievous. Don't leave anything out that your foster pet can chew, swallow or break such as electrical cords, hair ties, glassware, etc. Look for places where your foster can hide and be sure to block access to those areas including behind the refrigerator or washer.

Wellness Check:

All of our cats/kittens are up to date on all vaccinations appropriate for their ages. Kittens under 3 months will still need to receive their rabies vaccination within the first 90 days of adoption.

In the next few weeks please schedule a wellness check with your vet to create a schedule for when your cat/kitten will need to be seen so they stay healthy.

Microchip: This will be registered by Cat Kids Rescue.

Household Hazards:

When cat proofing for your new pet, please keep in mind these items need to be moved or put away to keep your pet safe.

Human Medicines/Pills/Vitamins

Some common plants that are toxic to cats are:

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| Aloe | Rhododendron | Hyacinths | Tulips |
| Chrysanthemums | Mistletoe | Marijuana | Daffodils |
| Lilies | Azaleas | Poinsettia | Sago Palm |

Some common human food that are dangerous to cats:

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|---------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Alcohol | Chives/Onion | Grapes & Raisins | Raw Fish and Meat |
| Dairy/Milk products | Chocolate | Xylitol | Yeast Dough |
| Caffeine | Garlic | Raw Eggs | Avocado |

Chemicals and insecticides:

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| Antifreeze | Fertilizer | Bleach | Herbicides |
| Detergents | Insect traps | Rodent traps | Dog flea/tick meds |

Other household hazards:

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| Toilet seat (make sure to keep down) | Dental floss, yarn, string |
| Chicken bones | Toys with small parts |
| Holiday decorations including lights and tinsel | Wires, phone charging cords |

Every moment matters if you think your pet has been exposed to something toxic.

Call your vet immediately. Keep your veterinary office and emergency/after hours phone numbers along with a 24-hour clinic phone number handy. Animal poison control can be reached at 888.426.4435 and are available 24/7.

Watch for symptoms:

Any unusual behavior or salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, breathing difficulties, shock or collapse, inflammation or swelling of the skin, depression or coma, twitching or changes in drinking urinating and appetite.

Introducing your cat/kitten to their new home:

Start in a small room or bathroom where the litter box will be kept. Show them where the litter box is and let them explore and get comfortable. Once they are relaxed you can introduce them to the rest of the home. Make sure they know where their food and water is as well.