

Your Guide to Kittenhood

Before Choosing Your New Best Friend:



- **Research** cat breeds, breeders and animal shelters.
- **Safety first!** Kitten-proof your home.
- **Gather all the “must-haves”** for kittenhood.
- **Make a plan for introducing** your kitten to other pets in the home.
- **Find a VCA Animal Hospital** in your area.

Love at First Purr: Welcome Home!



- Prepare for kitten’s **first nail-sharpening session** by setting up scratchers.
- **Build a cat tree** for your perfect tiny predator to climb.
- Have a **play and snuggle session** with the family.
- Let the **litter training** commence.
(1 litter box for each cat PLUS 1 extra!)
- Leave the carrier out with blankets and treats. **Make it a fun space!**
- Show off pics of kitten with their **first toy**.
- Snap pics of kitten’s **first mealtime**.

6–8
Weeks Old
Weight: _____

Time to Meet the World



- Schedule kitten’s **first veterinary appointment**.
 - Get kitten’s first round of **vaccines** and **deworming**.
 - Ask the veterinarian about **how much to feed** your kitten.
 - Start **parasite preventives**.
- **Download the myVCA™ app** to manage your appointments and keep track of vaccinations.
- **Trim those nails.** Best to get them started early!
- Schedule a **social visit** with the veterinarian.

10–12
Weeks Old
Weight: _____

A Bundle of Energy



- Make an appointment for kitten’s **first booster appointment**.
 - Get your kitten **tested for FIV and FeLV**.
 - Ask about the **feline leukemia vaccine**.
- Introduce your kitten to **new sights, sounds and smells**. Desensitization for the win!
- Give kitten a treat if they **respond to their name**.
- **Invite friends** over for a gentle play session. Paparazzi welcome!
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

16-18

Weeks Old

Weight: _____

Growing Up Too Fast



- Book an appointment for **second round of booster and rabies vaccines**.
- Talk to your veterinarian about **spay and neuter**.
- **It's teething time!** Revisit **kitten-proofing** to avoid teething casualties.
- Select a **new fun toy** for your kitten.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

5 Months Old

Weight: _____

Frisky Feline Fun



- Introduce **safe chew toys** for your teething kitten.
- **Try a new game** to test your kitten's skills.
- Spoil your cat with a **grooming session** (make it routine!).
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

6 Months Old

Weight: _____

Continue Those Healthy Habits



- Teach your cat a **new trick**. Training isn't just for dogs!
- **Evaluate body condition** to make sure your kitten isn't overeating.
- **Retest for FIV** if your kitten was previously FIV positive.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

7 Months Old

Weight: _____

Show Us Those Pearly Whites



- Check to see if **baby teeth** have fallen out.
- **Begin brushing daily** to keep teeth clean.
- See what your kitten thinks of **laser pointers**.
- Look into **dental treats** and **water additives** for cats to keep their smile fresh.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

8 Months Old

Weight: _____

Getting in the Swing of Things



- **Treat your cat to catnip** and see how they respond (if you haven't already!).
- Try a **self-propelling or motorized toy**. Time for your kitten to go hunting!
- Teach **another new trick**. Learning never stops!
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

9 Months Old

Weight: _____

Keeping Health on Track



- Introduce **puzzle toys** to make **mealtime** fun.
- Evaluate your kitten's **body condition** again. With age, the risk of obesity rises.
- Exercise the mind. Try a **new game** with your kitten.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

10 Months
Old

Weight: _____

Don't Slow Down Now



- Experiment with training your kitten to **play fetch**. Their skills might surprise you.
- Spoil your cat with a **grooming session** (make it routine!).
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

11 Months
Old

Weight: _____

Keeping It Fresh



- Schedule your kitten's **first dental cleaning**.
- Refurbish your kitten's **safe space**. A little change is good.
- Begin planning your kitten's **birthday bash**.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian.

1 Year
Old

Weight: _____

All Grown Up (Happy Birthday!)



- Have a **birthday celebration!**
- Schedule an **annual wellness appointment** with your veterinarian.
 - Stay up to date on **vaccines**.
 - Make sure your kitten is healthy. It's time for their **first annual lab work**.
- Switch to **adult cat food**.
- **Look back at photos** to see how much your kitten has grown.
- Administer **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian (you knew this was coming).

1 Year
Old +

A Lifetime of Cat Cuddles



- Continue to schedule **wellness appointments every year** with your veterinarian.
 - Protect your cat by **keeping up to date on vaccines**.
 - Get **annual lab work** to monitor your pet's health.
- **Trim nails monthly**.
- **Assess your pet's weight** every few months to stave off obesity.
- **Play with your cat daily**. It's good for them to **stay active!**
- Celebrate **every birthday** and share those **progress pics with us**.
- Enjoy **cuddles and your cat's toe beans**.
- Continue **parasite preventive(s)** from your veterinarian **every month**.