



Your new kitten has been raised with lots of love and attention in our busy family home. He/She has been handled on a daily basis and has been socialised with other cats, our family dog and is used to children. He/She is also used to all household noises.

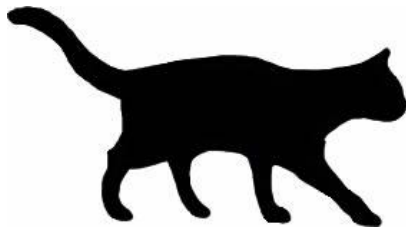
Our aim is to produce bold, confident, socialised kittens.

It is always nice to receive news and we would like to hear how you and your kitten are getting on together. The odd photograph would be nice too! We hope that you will find this care guide useful. Don't forget, we offer a lifetime of support and advice should you need it.

Settling In

On arrival home with your new kitten, place the kitten while still in their carrier in a suitable warm room where the kitten can be safely kept for a few days. Let the kitten come out to explore in its own time. Make sure there is a litter tray in the room and that the kitten knows exactly where it is. The kitten's room should also have a bowl of food and water kept a suitable distance from the litter tray. Cats are reluctant to use a litter tray that is too close to their food. Let your new kitten come to you in its own time.


Your kitten has been socialised with other animals from birth. He/She should be introduced to any other pets you have gradually and gently. Please do not leave them unattended until you are sure that they get along. Remember to make an extra fuss of existing pets to avoid them feeling jealous.




Feeding Guidelines

Kittens, like adult cats require wholesome, high-protein food and a constant supply of water. Food is served more frequently with kittens than with adult cats. Food and water bowls should be kept clean at all times. We do not recommend the use of 'hoppers'. The British Shorthair breed can be greedy and as such is prone to becoming overweight.

General feeding guidelines for your new kitten are:

 Age 3-5 Months: 4 to 5 meals daily

 Age 6-8 Months: 3 to 4 meals daily

 Age 9-12 Months: 3 meals daily

Your kitten has been fed on Royal Canin Kitten 36, a sample of which is in your kitten pack.

Toileting

Your new kitten has been fully litter trained. To avoid accidents it is absolutely vital that for the early days and weeks in a new home, the kitten is aware at all times where the litter tray is. In a new environment, the kitten may not be able to find the litter tray alone especially with a home with two or more floors and several rooms. It is important that the kitten is restricted to one area for the first few days and gradually allowed into other areas of your home under supervision.

Once your kitten has been allowed to roam freely around your home, always keep a watchful eye and keep taking your new kitten back to its litter tray at regular intervals. If you are living in a very large house on multiple floors, it is advisable to have a litter tray on every floor.

When your new kitten first arrives home, it is also advisable to continue to use the same cat litter as it is used to while your kitten settles in and to change it gradually if you wish. We recommend 'Yesterdays News', available from <http://www.rlpetproducts.co.uk>, a sample of which has been provided in your kitten pack. The litter tray should be kept clean at all times. Changing all or some of the litter tray contents daily is recommended to avoid accidents. Cats will quickly find an alternative site to use as a toilet if the tray is not cleaned daily.

Sleeping

Cats sleep for up to 60 per cent of their lives. They spend a larger proportion of their time asleep when they are kittens and again when they reach old age. It is normal for kittens to sleep a great deal. This is because of their bursts of frenetic play, during which they use a lot of energy. They need to replenish their energy levels frequently through resting. It is essential that kittens are allowed to rest undisturbed as and when they wish, to make sure they have the necessary energy to develop into healthy, well-adjusted adults.



Play

Your kitten will appreciate a variety of toys and activities. Cats and kittens need to practise hunting, it is in their instincts! Toys should be checked regularly to ensure they are not worn and remain safe.

Safety

Kittens can find their way in to some unlikely places! Beware of open doors on appliances and areas such as the bathroom. Kittens are curious and can drown.

Tea Tree Oil, raisins, grapes and chocolate are poisonous to cats. Some other common household items that can be fatal if ingested are: pennies, fabric softener sheets, mothballs, batteries, dish washing detergents, cigarettes, play dough, alcoholic beverages, and coffee grounds. Antifreeze is deadly poisonous and animals are attracted to it because of its sweet smell. Gasoline and oil ingestion can also cause death.

Poinsettia, Lilies and Daffodils (bulb plants generally) are poisonous to your cat. You may want to kill ants, but you do not want your beloved pet to be harmed. Your cat may be attracted to the sweet smells associated to some of these products, and sample them. Also, the use of poisons for rodents

could result in poisoning of your cat if he or she happens to catch one. You may want to consider natural methods of pest control to avoid these risks.

Poisons and medications around the home should be stored away from your pets as you would from children.

Vaccinations

Your kitten has been vaccinated against feline Infectious Enteritis, Cat Flu and Leukaemia. It is important to keep protection from these diseases up to date with annual booster vaccinations.

Parasite Control

Your kitten has been wormed regularly using Panacur Paste from the age of 2 weeks. We strongly recommend that this be continued to ensure your kitten remains free from internal parasites and therefore healthy. It is best to consult your vet about worming, as they will be able to prescribe the correct dose, which is dependant upon the weight of your individual kitten.

We recommend Frontline Spot On for flea prevention. Again, it is best to consult your vet, as they will be able to prescribe the correct dose.

Grooming

As your new kitten is a British Shorthair grooming is minimal. Claws should be clipped regularly and a scratching post provided. Using dry food in his/her diet will eliminate the need for tooth brushing. Ears will need to be checked on a regular basis to ensure they are clean and free from infection or mites. Should a problem present, it can be easily treated if spotted early.

Insurance Cover

Although we hope very much that you won't need to use it, our kittens go to their new home with 4 weeks free Petplan insurance cover. We recommend that insurance be maintained as vets bills even for minor illness, can be expensive and should an accident occur they could escalate rapidly.

We wish you and your new companion many happy years together!

