TIPS FOR CARING FOR YOUR KITTEN



Be sure to follow up with your veterinarian for the 2nd and 3rd set of kitten immunizations in the time frame indicated on your health record from Community Cats. Give a copy of our records to your veterinarian.



Feed kittens wet canned cat food 3 to 4 times daily in spoonfuls. You may also provide dry kitten chow for the first few months, then around 6-7 months of age switch to adult food. Do not give cow's milk to kittens as their digestive systems cannot tolerate. Provide a clean bowl of water 24/7.



Provide a kitten bed or box lined with a soft towel or blanket. If caged at night be sure to include litter box, water and dry food and a soft blanket. Cover the cage with a sheet or towel to shield the kitten from outside activity. The covering has a calming effect.



Introduce other pets to your kitten slowly. It may be wise to cage the kitten or keep in a separate room until a positive relationship is established. Below are some useful videos to help with this transition.

Introducing a cat to a new home: https://youtu.be/imuKMAJB-yw
Introducing a kitten to resident cat: https://youtu.be/wtgCT7bcHgA
Introducing a kitten/cat to a resident dog: https://youtu.be/nEQP_cXc388



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We highly recommend "clumping" cat litter (with optional odor control). Be sure that the box is low enough when you have a young kitten for them to be able to get in and out of. As they grow, be sure that it is big and tall enough for the cat to fit in comfortably. Cats typically do not like covered litter boxes. Be sure to scoop the litter several times a day.

Keep litter boxes away from noisy areas (i.e. avoid washing machine) and place at least 2 boxes in different areas. With multiple cats it is important to have several boxes and placed where they cannot be cornered by another cat (i.e. 2 ways to get to and from the box).



Empty paper bags, cardboard boxes or wadded up scrap paper are lots of fun. But they do need places to scratch and hang`out. Also cats love fuzzy balls, catnip mice, laser exerciser lights, circle ball chasers, window ledges to watch outside, scratch pads (A MUST to save furniture) and hammocks. (NO yarn or strings that may be swallowed.) They also like to watch TV or the 'swimming goldfish' on your computer.



Kittens and cats love to climb and have high places to hang out. A multi-level, quality cat tree that is sturdy and stable when they climb and also has a scratching post is a great play toy. This will help keep them off of furniture and the counters. Placed by a window with a bird feeder outside provides hours of entertainment.

Click <u>here</u> for ideas for hammocks with scratching posts or a cat <u>scratching post</u>. or <u>tower of tracks</u> is another great toy!

Enjoy your new family member and all the joy they bring. Thank you for supporting Community Cats of Benzie County!

