

Fact Sheet

CARING FOR YOUR KITTEN

Kittens make affectionate and playful pets, however it is important to have a good understanding of their needs when welcoming one into your home. Knowing how to care for your new kitten will help you give your kitten the best start in life.

THINGS TO DO BEFORE BRINGING YOUR KITTEN HOME

In your kitten's first 8 weeks of life, it should have:

- been vaccinated at 6 to 8 weeks
- started litter box training
- started socialising.

Be prepared for your kitten's arrival at home by:

- creating a space to play as well as resting and hiding places
- buying cat essentials like toys, a scratching post, litter tray and food/water bowls

- cat-proofing your home and removing any potential hazards.

THINGS TO DO AFTER BRINGING YOUR KITTEN HOME

This is an important time for your kitten, continue socialising your kitten through positive experiences like:

- introducing them to your home and your other pets
- getting them used to being

handled and groomed

- establishing a consistent routine.

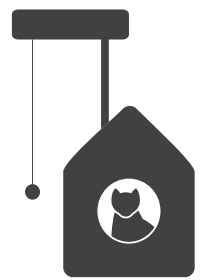
Don't forget adult cats require annual booster vaccinations. Booster vaccinations are given one year after your cat's third vaccination (see vaccination schedule below).

Also, your kitten can be safely desexed from 16 weeks of age and don't forget to microchip and register your new kitten with your local Council.

Kittens should be offered food at least 4 times per day. Take care not to overfeed or underfeed your kitten.



Create a space to play as well as rest and hiding places. Don't forget to provide your kitten with a scratching post and toys to keep him/her stimulated.



KITTEN VACCINATION SCHEDULE

6 to 8 weeks

First vaccination

10 to 12 weeks

Second vaccination

14 to 16 weeks

Third vaccination

HAVE A PET EMERGENCY

Contact your local vet or visit the RSPCA
<https://www.rspcansw.org.au/what-we-do/disaster-and-alerts/>.

NEED HELP WITH PET DESEXING?

Contact the Animal Welfare League NSW
<https://www.awlnsw.com.au/find-us/>.

HOMES NORTH PET AGREEMENT

If you have a pet, you need to let Homes North know in writing and sign a Homes North Pet Agreement. Homes North knows how important your pet is to you, and like you, we want to make sure they are well cared for. The Pet Agreement acknowledges you have a pet, you agree to look after your home and the pet appropriately, and if there is an emergency, Homes North is aware that you have a pet at home.



NEED TO CONTACT HOMES NORTH?

Armidale
(02) 6772 5133

Glen Innes
(02) 6732 3652

Gunnedah
(02) 6742 0363

Inverell
(02) 6722 5137

Moree
(02) 6752 4440

Tamworth
(02) 6766 6897

Coledale
(02) 6765 8879

www.homesnorth.org