

Kittens 101

- 1) Determine age
 - a. Some baby teeth appear at 2-3 weeks; they have enough teeth to eat @ 4 weeks.
 - b. Eyes: open at 7-8 days; they change from blue to gold or green @ 6 ½ to 7 weeks
 - c. Ears- their ears stand up at 3 ½ weeks of age
 - d. They should be starting on some solid food at 4 weeks
 - e. They are unstable on their feet until about 4 weeks; by 5 weeks they can run pretty well.
 - f. Weight should be 1 lb for every 4 weeks (8weeks = 2 lbs) ideally
- 2) Deflea and check ears
- 3) Deworm and then again in ten days
- 4) Distemper shot @ 8 weeks , then 2 more every 21-28 days
- 5) FeLV test @ 8 weeks
- 6) Feeding:
 - a. Canned food (Turkey & Giblets to start) - ¼ can or maybe a little less 2-3x/day per kitten
 - b. dry kitten chow free feed, once they master the canned food; sometimes you may have to mix a little in the canned food to get them to start eating it.
 - c. Note: when only 4-5 weeks old, you may have to make a “gruel” by mixing the canned food with “KMR” milk for kittens – DO NOT use cow’s milk
- 7) Litter box – they will use @ 4-5 weeks old- clay non-clumping only during kittenhood
- 8) Keep the kittens warm, clean and dry – even if this means cleaning the cage and litterbox several times/day at first
- 9) To socialize they must be kept in a cage and use food and playtime as a reward for being handled & cuddled.
- 10) 4 months of age – spay/neuter and rabies shot and maybe 3rd distemper shot
Note: must be 3 lbs to get rabies shot.