

## Prepare Family Members

- Model the proper behavior by always treating your cat with affection and respect.
- Educate children on the -
  - ◆ best way to approach a feline; not many cats can be picked-up and held and many do not like being petted or playing rough.
  - ◆ appropriate ways to play with a cat using safe cat toys, and the difference between teasing and playing.
  - ◆ Proper way to handle a cat; an adult cat should never be picked up by the scruff of the neck, & how to support the cat under the chest with one hand, while supporting the hindquarters with the other.
- Involve older children in caring for your cat. 7- to 8-year-olds can replenish food & water bowls; ten-year old can gently brush a cat & help keep the litter pan clean.
- Educate your child - borrow books about cats from the library, watch videos online, etc.
- Teach children to close the door! Many indoor cats get injured or lost when children inadvertently leave the outside door open.
- Share children & pet blankets with your new feline family member so they can get familiar with their scents.

## Time To Play

- Play keeps the feline's brain engaged and helps them develop positive socialization skills.
  - ◆ Spending time playing & bonding with your new feline family member will certainly, reduce their stress & most likely yours, too!
  - ◆ Use toys that are on a stick to teach your feline that hands are not toys.

## Time For Care

- Cats will groom themselves, but additional time brushing will keep their coat shiny and will help reduce shedding & hairballs
  - ◆ Brushing should be done weekly, but maybe daily dependent on their coat & season.
  - ◆ Cats will also care for their own nails if provided a proper place to scratch, such as a scratching post. However, your cat will need their nails clipped every 2-3 weeks.

## Prepare For Their Healthcare

- Schedule an appointment for spaying/neutering. This is not only a requirement of the adoption, but it also helps your pet lead a happier, healthier life. We offer a low cost spay/neuter program.

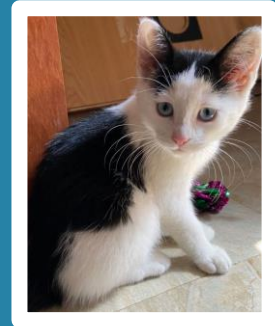


*Are you thinking of adopting a kitten or a cat?*

**Having a successful adoption is all about the following:**

- Time
- Items
- Preparation
- Space

## ADOPTION ADAPTION TIPS



### Forgotten Felines and Fidos

P.O. Box 62 (Mailing Address)  
6022 Mountain Road (Address)  
Germansville, PA 18053  
Phone: (610)-760-9009

Email: [forgottenfelinesfidos@gmail.com](mailto:forgottenfelinesfidos@gmail.com)

## Time To Adjust

→ A feline can feel quite overwhelmed, shy & nervous in their new home & will need time (at least a few weeks) to decompress & adjust.

- ◆ Allow 10 days in a smaller location/room to adjust before allowing time to roam, meet other pets, etc. For the first time, supervision should be provided for about 24-48 hours.
- ◆ It is best to introduce your new cat to any others after they have eaten and, preferably, when they would normally take their naps.
- ◆ Do not leave them alone for more than a four-hour stretch to ensure they have plenty of water & have not gotten into any dangerous situations.
- ◆ As they age, they will be happy waiting for you to return from work to play with them.



## Space

→ To call their own - Just as humans like to have their own area to retreat to, animals are much the same way.

- ◆ It is highly recommended to set-up a closed area/room with a comfy bed, soft warm blanket, and some catnip toys for them to adjust by themselves. This will be considered their safe-haven and they can retreat to this area anytime they would like. However, keep them in this area during the entire adjustment period.
- ◆ Set-up cat condos and trees with access to windows for your feline to have Cat TV all day watching outside activities like birds, squirrels, etc.
- ◆ If you have more than one pet, you can feed your pets on opposite sides of a door so they can smell each other, but not see each other. This will also reinforce positive feelings as they will associate each other with yummy food.
- ◆ Keep litter boxes away from loud areas in the house so the feline does not get scared when using it.
- ◆ Block off nooks that are dangerous for cats to explore (ex: under large appliances, behind furniture, in basement crawl spaces)
- ◆ Place breakables and plants out of reach, especially poisonous plants.

## Shopping The Basics

### → Litter and Box:

- ◆ Ask what litter & box the cat used. You can try different types of litter & boxes as, believe it or not, some felines are particular about where they go to the bathroom.
- ◆ It is a good idea to have one litter box per cat, plus an extra as some are territorial.
- ◆ Be sure to scoop your cat's box daily & do a deep clean at least once a week.

### → Food and Water:

- ◆ Use high-quality food & ask what food the cat was eating. Slowly introduce new food, if needed, because it will cause diarrhea.
- ◆ Provide canned cat food twice a day according to the package label (no seafood for kittens). Throw away leftover canned food after 30 minutes.
- ◆ Free fee your cat dry food which can be left out all day, unless given specific instructions by the shelter or medical team.
- ◆ Avoid human foods, plants, cleaners, etc. that are toxic to felines.
- ◆ Be sure clean water is always available. Since cats tend to drink less water than they need, set-up water bowls in different places in your home for easy access. Milk is unnecessary & can cause an upset stomach.

### → Toys and Such:

- ◆ Condos & trees near a window
- ◆ Cat scratchers to save your furniture & clean their claws! Spray with a catnip spray to attract the cat to use it.
- ◆ Self-gratifying toys such as small stuffed mice, balls or those that contain a ball in a track.
- ◆ Don't forget toys that you can enjoy with your cat!