

Bringing Your New Kitten Home

You are now responsible for your kitten's safety, proper growth and health. The following information will provide insight on how to introduce your newest addition to the family, and how to handle your new kitten.

Introductions & Handling your kitten

Introducing the new environment and new family members to your kitten is a very important stage. Begin by isolating your kitten so that you may control introductions to people and pets in the family.

Total acceptance by other animal the house may take several months.

Supervising your kitten's introduction into the home helps make the integration go smoothly.

Rough or sudden movement can be very frightening to a kitten; handle your kitten gently and teach others to do the same. An adult should always be present when children play with the kitten. When introducing your new kitten to your existing pets let them sniff and investigate each other. Give your resident cat plenty of time to get used to the kitten.

- 🐾 Introduce the kitten slowly and gradually. For example, the first day you may keep your pets separated in different rooms so they can get used to each other's smell, the second day they may see each other and the third day they can interact.
- 🐾 Current pets may be unwilling to share belongings with the new-comer. Make sure that your new kitten has his or her own dishes, blankets, toys, litterbox, etc. This will help your current pet feel less threatened, as his or her "property" will not become shared.

- 🐾 Ensure each pet still has time away from the other and one-on-one time with you. This helps build confidence, so they are not dependent on you.
- 🐾 Never leave your pets together unsupervised until you are 100% sure that they get along without a hitch.
- 🐾 Some hissing/growling can be expected from your current resident cat or your kitten since they are trying to show each other who is boss. It is best not to interfere, as they will typically sort things out on their own.

Kitten Proofing Your Home

One of the best ways to kitten-proof your home is to get on your kitten's level – literally! Get down on your hands and knees to assess potential hazards.

- 🐾 Ensure all windows and screens are securely closed to safely contain your kitten
- 🐾 Keep your kitten away from balconies or high places
- 🐾 Keep any cleaning supplies or potentially toxic substances out of reach. Store them in a high cupboard
- 🐾 Keep garbage cans safely tucked away
- 🐾 Make sure that any household plants are safe from your kitten
- 🐾 Keep all electrical cords out of reach
- 🐾 Place any sharp objects, plastic bags and other potentially harmful materials out of your kitten's reach