

Proper Cat Care

Housing

Indoor/outdoor/both...what is best for your cat? Well, in our opinion, indoor is the best and safest option, which is why we only adopt our cats out to live exclusively indoors. The outside world can be very dangerous for your cat. Predators, cars, other cats, and more can all be a risk to your cat when they are outside. Inside they are safe and comfortable. We understand some cats may want to explore the outside world, and for those cats, there are two safe options! You can find a cat harness and leash set that will fit them securely and teach your cat to walk outside with you. This way they can explore the world with you as their personal body guard, supervising to be sure they are safe on their adventures. You can also build a catio, a safe and fully enclosed area where your cat can be to explore your yard or patio. These must have a roof to prevent your cat from climbing out and to stop other cats or predators from getting in.

Diet

It is very important to have your cat on a healthy diet to help them live long, happy, and healthy lives. A poor diet can lead to obesity, dental disease, and more problems. We highly suggest you consider a raw diet for your cat. This is the best and healthiest option in our opinion, and there are several freeze dried raw diet brands that are on the market and easily accessible and easy to use. If you are unable to feed a raw diet, you want to look into a high quality, grain free dry cat food with a wet food to supplement the diet. It is best for your cat to have some form of dry kibble in their diet to help with their tooth health. Keep in mind that cats are considered obligate carnivores, so a vegetarian or vegan diet is not something we would recommend for them!

Veterinary Care

Plan to provide your cat with routine veterinary care which at the minimum is yearly check ups with a veterinarian. We highly suggest spaying and neutering your cat if they are not already fixed when you bring them home. This is the healthiest option for them and helps with behavioral problems in most cases. There are far too many homeless cats in the world, so allowing your cat to be unspayed or unneutered allows for the risk that they may breed, even by accident, and that is not something the world needs! Your cat will need regular vaccines, especially rabies, FVRCP, and FELV, and we recommend regular testing for your cat for FIV/FELV especially if they are allowed outdoors. Preventative medication for fleas/ticks/heartworm can be recommended to you by your vet as well.

Grooming

Different breeds of cats will require different grooming techniques. Some cats require daily brushing if they have long hair, otherwise they will become matted. Hairless cats require regular bathing to keep their skin in the best shape possible. You also want to be sure to regularly clean your cat's ears as well as clip their nails. We suggest clipping nails every 4-5 weeks to be sure that your cat is comfortable without overgrown nails. You can also provide scratching posts so your cat can learn to help keep their nails short themselves!

Enrichment

Your new cat will need plenty of enrichment options! There are so many toys on the market that they will love. Toys with catnip are fun to cuddle with, and there are plenty of electronic toys that can get your cat up, moving, and "hunting" in the safety of their home. There are even toys on strings you can use to play with your cat. Puzzle toys or slow feeders can be a great way to enrich a food motivated cat. Other cats would prefer to laze the day away, so be sure to provide them with cosy sleeping spaces. You can have window ledges, cat trees, and hideaway beds. If your cat would rather go on adventures, you can double the usable space in your home by creating a climbing gym for your cat on your wall! Finally, if you feel like your cat wants to explore the outside world, they can do it safely with you by their side on walks or you can provide them with a catio where they can safely play to their heart's content!