

New Kitten Exam

Information to Help You
and Your Pet Get off to a
Happy Start



Nutrition

- **Recommend Waltham kitten or another high quality like Royal Canin, Eukanuba, or Science Diet kitten food until 6 months of age or until spayed/neutered.**
- **If under 12 weeks of age feed 3 meals a day or free choice**
- **After 12 weeks old can feed 2 meals a day**
- **Be advised to how much to feed to avoid over eating and obesity. Measure out the amount of food they get.**
- **Cats can get fatty liver syndrome and diabetes.**



Litter Box Care



- Should have at least one per cat in house hold.
- 1 box per each level of the house.
- Different types of litter on the market like clumping, crystals, non-clumping.
- Change daily if using non-clumping, or scoop out daily and change once a week if using clumping.

Toys



- Simple toys are best- paper bag, wadded up paper, ping-pong ball. Fishing pole type toys are great. Cat nip toys are good.
- Nothing made of string, ribbon, or cording should be left around. Rubber bands should be picked up as well. No tinsel at Christmas time, or Easter grass at Easter time.
- Needle work should be locked up when unattended.
- Critique toys carefully- no eyes, buttons, strings that the cat could chew off.

Grooming

- If medium/long haired cat, then needs to be brushed daily.
- If can't bathe at home then you can schedule a grooming appointment when necessary.
- Wipe out eyes with a warm wash cloth or cotton ball. Check ears for debris and wax.
- Keep nails trimmed to proper length.



Socialization



- Have lots of company over with lots of activities.
- Play tapes of storms, turn on the vacuum cleaner and leave it sit sometimes.
- Scratching posts



Biting

- Redirect kitten to something else like it's favorite toy or a fishing pole.
- Can yell "OUCH".
- Walk away and let the cat have a "time-out."
- Spray bottle, squirt gun, penny can, compressed air can (also works for keeping off of the counters)
- Try bitter apple spray on anything that the kitten is biting/chewing.
- If you have an extremely active kitten, then you may want to get a second kitten so they can play with each other.

Second Cat

- Any new kitten should be isolated in his own room for 2 weeks when it is first brought home.
- This lets you see if he's using the litter box consistently.
- The stress of the move can bring on a “cold” or viral infection that you may not want to expose the other cat.



Second Cat

- If your other cat is less than 1 year old than he is still in a social period and will start to play with the newcomer after a short time.
- If the cat is greater than 1 year, then introduce the new kitten slowly.
- Do this by the following steps:

Second Cat

- When first cat is completely relaxed with this situation, and after a 2 week isolation, then put kitten in a portable kennel and put in the middle of the living room. Let the other cat approach it at the distance that is comfortable with him.
- Try allowing the kitten free in the room for 10 minute intervals with supervision only. Increase time only if the adult cat is not too stressed.
- If the adult cat stalks the kitten and attacks it, then the addition of the kitten to the new home is probably not going to work out.

Spay / Neutering

- Recommend at 5 ½ months. If this age falls between Jan 1st and June 1st, then we should recommend 5 months of age because of the time of year that promotes heat cycle.
- If the pet is from CVHS or a pet store, we may not know the pet's age and may need to go by the pet's weight instead. 1 month=1 pound.
- Declawing is done by laser. Must be at least 3 pounds.



Spay/ Neutering

Females:

- Eliminates heat cycle
- Provides protection from breast cancer, uterine disease, ovarian cysts, and complications in delivery.
- Will continually be in heat until bred

Males:

- Reduces spraying
- Reduces the urge to roam.
- Stops mating drive
- Helps prevent male genital problems

Laser Surgery

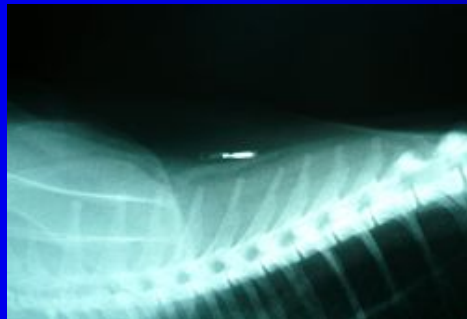


Why laser surgery?

- Less pain
- Less bleeding
- Less swelling
- Reduced risk of infection
- Quick return to normal activities

AVID© Microchip

- Tiny microchip that contains a one-of-a-kind identification number.
- Number is registered nationally in a database
- Implanted under the skin where it will remain safely for life.
- Very safe and effective.



Dental Care

80% of cats over 3 years old have periodontal disease. It is not curable but is the most preventable disease.



Dental Care

- If left untreated, can bring pain, bad breath, and tooth loss.
- Chronic infection in the oral cavity can spread harmful bacteria to the bloodstream and infect the heart, lungs, liver and kidneys.



Preventative Dental Care

- Daily brushing is the best thing for their teeth. The CET toothpaste contains enzymes to break down plaque and tartar.
- We also have an antibacterial rinse



“One milligram of plaque contains one trillion bacteria”
- CET

Revolution©/Frontline©

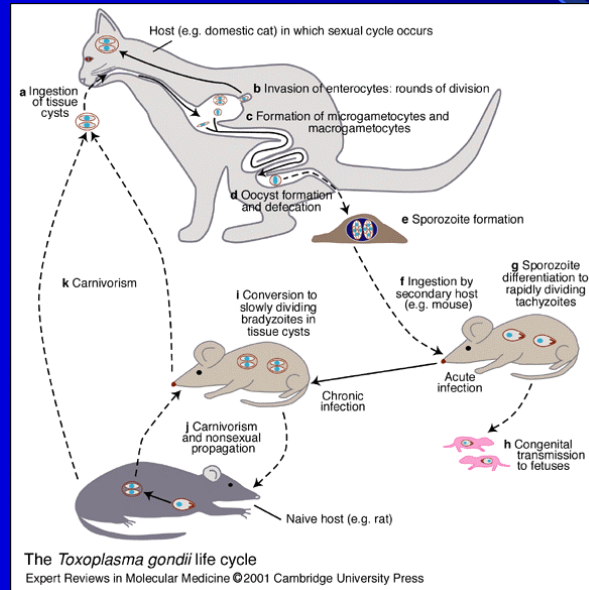
- Revolution and the CDC recommend that cats be on Revolution year round to help reduce the spread of and prevent many diseases.
- Roundworms can cause blindness in children which they can get from the litter box.
- Flea and tick management.
- Revolution also prevents external parasites- fleas/ear mites/lice.



Vaccinations

- **Rabies:** kittens get at 16 weeks and at 1 year of age.
- **Distemper:** kittens get at 8 weeks, 12 weeks, then 1 year.
- **Leukemia:** Strongly recommend doing a Leuk/FIV test first. If neg on both, then recommend repeat in 3 months or at the time of spay/neuter. Kittens get 3 weeks after 1st rabies. Must be boosted 3 weeks later.

Intestinal Parasites



What is an Intestinal Parasite?

Cats can serve as unwilling hosts to tiny organisms that benefit from living in their intestines. Four groups of worms:

1. Roundworms
2. Tapeworms
3. Hookworms
4. Whipworms

There is also a few species of single-cell organisms such as Coccidia and Giardia.

How Do Pets Become Infected With Intestinal Parasites?

- There are many ways your pet can become infected, including:
 - Drinking contaminated water
 - Coming into contact with other infected animals.
 - Coming into contact with infected feces
 - Nursing from an infected mother
 - Ingesting fleas



What are the Physical Signs of a Parasitic Infection?

- Healthy, well-fed pets may have an internal parasite without showing any physical signs. However, watch for the following:
 - A change in appetite
 - Coughing
 - Diarrhea (sometimes with blood)
 - Weight loss
 - Skin irritation and itching
 - A rough or dry coat
 - Pot belly
 - Lethargy
 - An overall poor appearance



Website

To view this presentation at home you can go to our website:

www.freypethospital.com

Frey Pet Hospital



“Treating your pets as if they were our very own.”

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