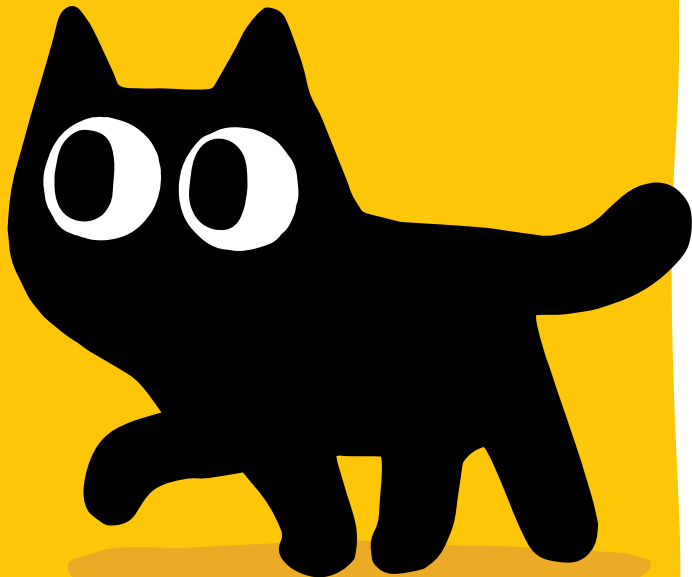


The Petbarn

# Kitten Guide



Everything you need to keep your kitten happy and healthy for life





**Congratulations!  
I am thrilled  
for you to be  
embarking on  
such a special  
journey, owning  
a pet is the  
greatest gift.**

I couldn't imagine a life without my pets and still remember those early stages with the greatest fondness. It truly is the addition of a new family member that will enrich your life in a way you never thought possible.

Despite being a Veterinarian for over 25 years, I still feel the same joy seeing families who are bringing a new pet into their home, nothing can compare to the feeling of coming home to your biggest fan every day.

Our Petbarn Kitten Care Guide includes everything you need to know in your kitten's early stages, to give them a happy and healthy start in life.

We want to ensure your kitten is receiving the best care, so we've also provided you with \$40 off your next vaccination at your local Greencross Vets, or one month free of our preventative wellness program, Healthy Pets Plus.

Our pet-passionate teams are here to provide advice and solutions for all your kitten questions. Whether it's our knowledgeable in-store support teams, in-clinic vets and vet nurses, our 24/7 Emergency and Specialist hospitals, or our 24/7 WebVet service, our Petbarn and Greencross teams are here for all your kitten wellness needs, whenever they arise. Your puppy will always receive the best care possible.

I wish you many happy and fun moments as you commence this incredible journey with your new kitten.

Dr. Magdoline Awad  
Chief Veterinary Officer  
Greencross Vets



Book an appointment at [greencrossvets.com.au](https://greencrossvets.com.au) or call **1300 836 036**

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**Over \$130 worth of savings**

See reverse



# Kitten checklist

Head into Petbarn to get all these essentials for your new arrival.

## Getting prepped

- ❑ Collar with bell and ID tag
- ❑ Cat harness and lead
- ❑ Feliway diffuser or spray

## Toilet Training

- ❑ Cat litter  
You may have to try different litters to find what's best for your kitten.
- ❑ Litter tray, tray liners and scoop

## Playing

- ❑ Play toys  
A range of toys to provide mental stimulation for your cat.
- ❑ Scratch post  
To encourage healthy scratching away from furniture.
- ❑ Lots of cuddles

## Coming home

- ❑ Cat bed
- ❑ Travel crate or carrier
- ❑ Plush toys for comfort

## Feeding

- ❑ Food and water bowls
- ❑ Super premium kitten food  
Flip to page 25 to find out why this diet is so important for your kitten's development.
- ❑ Treats  
Treats should only make up 10% of their daily calories.

## Grooming

- ❑ Waterless cat shampoo
- ❑ Cleaning wipes
- ❑ Brush, comb and nail clippers

## Health

- ❑ Flea, tick and worming treatments
- ❑ Toothbrush and toothpaste  
Establish a good dental routine to prevent disease in the future.  
Learn more on page 39.

## Greencross Vets

- ❑ Health check  
For vaccinations and professional health care advice.
- ❑ Emergency vet  
It's important to know where your closest emergency vet is.  
Find your closest emergency vet at: [greencrossvets.com.au/emergency-care](https://greencrossvets.com.au/emergency-care)
- ❑ Healthy Pets Plus  
With membership, gain access to unlimited vet consults, unlimited access to WebVet, free vaccinations and microchipping, and more. Learn more on page 66.

**\$40 OFF**

Your next vaccination



OR

**ONE MONTH FREE**

Vaccinations included!



T&Cs apply. See page 66 for details

# Starter kit

Petbarn has everything you need to ensure your new kitten is settled and happy. Flip to page 66 for vouchers to use on these products!

## Getting prepped



**Feliway**  
Diffuser and Refill



**All Day**  
Kitten Harness  
& Lead Set

## Coming home



**All Day**  
Small Carrier



**All Day**  
Cat Igloo

## Toilet training



**Freshco**  
Starter Kit



**Freshco**  
Cat Litter



**Natures Miracle**  
Odour Destroy  
Litter Spray

## Feeding



**Royal Canin**  
Kitten Wet and  
Dry Food



**All Day**  
Cat Bowl

## Playing



**All Day**  
Cat Scratcher



**KONG**  
Mice  
Kitten Toy

## Health



**Revolution Plus**  
Flea, Tick and  
Worm Treatment

## Grooming



**Wahl**  
Massaging  
Comb



**Bow & Bell**  
Nail Clippers



**Bow & Bell**  
Eye Wipes

**Save up to 40%\* on your kitten starter kit!**  
T&Cs apply. See page 66 for details.



# 5 ways to keep your kitten healthy & happy



## Nutrition

**At Petbarn and Greencross Vets, your pet's health and happiness is the most important thing to us.**

**From what they eat, to how they sleep and play, we're committed to making it a healthy, happy life for them, and for you.**

When it comes to pet food, we'll always dish out the right advice. Our friendly team have perfected the science of meal-time, with over 210,000 hours of training in nutrition, which makes us real foodies! We'll always recommend a complete and balanced diet that gets the vet's tick of approval and your pet's lick of approval.



## Health

We're always by your side with what pets need for physical and mental health. From monthly parasite prevention, to Greencross Vet appointments, to a network of specialists for critical care, we believe every pet deserves access to the best quality care.



## Comfort

Creating a pet's home is an important job for a pet parent. So rest assured, we provide all the creature comforts they need, both inside and outside to curl up and relax. Shower them with affection and a whole lot of shampoo (when they need it) to keep them clean and feeling good.



## Training

Teach your kitten good behaviours to help bond with them. A little training goes a long way to making them and you happier for life. All you have to do is ask us about our tried-and-true tips on things like litter training, tricks, and harnesses.



## Play

Healthy bodies and minds go hand in hand. That's why we have all the best toys for your pet's busy life designed to keep them mentally and physically active. Plus playtime is good for everyone's happiness and helps strengthen the bond with our pets.





**Friends  
for Life**



# Join Friends for Life and get pawsome rewards for being a great pet parent.

**Our membership program helps new kitten parents save in four amazing ways:**



## **Rewards for Every Purchase**

Collect a minimum of 10 points\* for every dollar you spend at Petbarn and Greencross Vets.

**Get a \$10 voucher for every 6,000 points you earn!**



## **Frequent Feeder Pricing**

Get the best prices on the food your furry friends love.

Save up to 25%\* on your puppy or kitten food purchases instore when you repurchase within two months.



## **Member Only Pricing^**

Get special pricing on selected products across:

- ✓ Flea, tick and worm prevention
- ✓ Treats
- ✓ Litter
- ✓ Fish Tanks



## **Extra Perks & Advice**

Be sure to check your inbox for exclusive offers and advice to support you throughout all stages of pet parenthood.

Sign up for great rewards and discounts in-store or at [petbarn.com.au/loyalty-program](https://petbarn.com.au/loyalty-program)



**Earn and spend points at:**

**PETBARN**



**Greencross  
Vets**

**ciTy FaRMeRs**

\*For full terms and conditions see [www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions](https://www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions)

^Member only price may vary in-store and online. Further T&Cs apply.





## First Steps

# The joy of a new kitten

At Petbarn, we're here to help you provide the best care for your newest family member.

As a new pet parent, we want to make sure your kitten starts off on the right paw so they can grow into a happy and healthy adult.

In the following pages you'll find everything you need to look after your kitten. Use this guide throughout the first year of your kitten's life to help with everything from feeding and exercise, to litter training and vaccinations. These essential tips and advice will help you make the best decisions for your kitten's well-being to shape them into a strong and confident cat.



Don't forget to use the vouchers on page 66 to save up to 20% on your kitten's essentials!

Have any other kitten care questions?  
**Just ask [petbarn.com.au](https://www.petbarn.com.au)**



# Before becoming a kitten parent

**Thinking of adopting a feline friend? Here's what you need to know before welcoming a kitten into your family.**

## **Have you thought it through?**

While cats can be fairly independent, they do require a level of care and maintenance, including regular veterinary check-ups and medical care, ongoing flea, tick and worming control, complete and balanced nutrition and, in some cases, regular professional grooming. It's important to do your research and understand everything you need to make a lifelong commitment to this new little family member.

## **Cats need their own space**

Some cats are more social than others. Either way, it's important to ensure that their environment allows them to have their own space – somewhere they can retreat when they want some alone time. It's also good to put their litter tray in a low-traffic area of the home as they need their privacy too!

## **Felines are smart**

Don't underestimate cats, they're a lot smarter than you think... and they will try to outsmart you if they get the chance! They have an innate ability to learn quickly, solve problems and adapt to their environments. This can often be incredible to watch as they use their smarts to navigate their lives around your home.

## **Not all cats are the same**

While some cats are lap-lovers, others like to be free agents and will genuinely be happy in their own company. While they will often come to you when they want affection,

most cats are impressively individual and independent – doing what they want, when they want.

## **The power of playtime**

Environmental enrichment is very important for our feline friends, particularly indoor cats. You'll need lots of fun toys to occupy them, especially when you're not around. Interactive toys that allow you to get involved in playtime are also important and can help provide the balance of physical and mental stimulation needed to minimise behavioural issues.

## **They scratch, obviously**

It is inevitable your cat will want to scratch something as it's a natural behaviour and helps them keep their claws neat and tidy. In saying that, you're probably not going to bubble wrap your entire house so your best bet is to get a scratching post for your cat to play on and sharpen their claws. This will help to save your furniture!

## **Introduce other pets slowly**

While cats adapt to new surrounds quickly, they don't always warm to other pets at quite the same pace. If you already have another pet, like a dog, you should know you can't force pets to like each other, so it's best to go slow during the introduction process. For animals, smells are far more important than appearances, so try getting your pets used to each other's scent before they meet face to face. A way to do this is to swap their blankets or beds prior to meeting.



## Kitten love

### New parent Sasha shares the joy of kitten parenthood.

"I adopted Nala as a tiny kitten. When I brought her home with me she cried a lot and was very shy – that said, she immediately stuck to my side. I was working from home at the time, so I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time with her as she settled in. After her initial timidity, she felt right at home and has managed to claw every piece of furniture in the house! I never knew I would be a cat person – she has changed my life for the better. She sleeps at the top of my pillow every night and starts pawing my face in the morning after 6am. While people think I am obsessive about her, she completes my day. I come home and she runs to the door – she makes my place a home."



## Petbarn Adoption

### Have you considered adoption?

At Petbarn, we believe that all pets deserve the chance to have a happy and healthy life with a loving family. That's why we don't sell dogs and cats but partner with animal shelters to house pets waiting for a new home in our Adoption Centres which are located in selected Petbarn stores. This means, if you adopt a pet from a Petbarn Adoption Centre, 100% of the adoption fee is returned to our adoption partners.

Petbarn Adoption has helped over 62,000 pets find their fur-ever home!

To find out more, visit [petbarn.com.au/services/adoptions](https://petbarn.com.au/services/adoptions)



**Greencross  
Vets**

Your local Greencross Vets team can talk through any questions or concerns you might have, as well as advise you on what you need to ensure your kitten stays in top health once you've brought them home.

Visit [greencrossvets.com.au](https://greencrossvets.com.au) for more information.



# Top breeds

**Here are the five top cat breeds most commonly welcomed into Aussie homes that you may want to consider.**

## Mixed breeds

There are so many fantastic mixed-breed cats available for adoption! Often you'll be lucky to enjoy some of the best character traits of two or three different breeds. You'll find so many gorgeous cats and kittens in adoption centres just waiting for loving, forever homes, and you can learn so much about your prospective pet before you make a lifelong commitment. By adopting, you'll be making a huge difference to the life of a cat.



## Abyssinian

These loyal and loving kittens attach themselves to their human and demand affection. This breed has dark-rimmed, expressive eyes of amber, green or hazel, a long slender body, wedge-shaped head and large ears with a tuft of hair at the top. They enjoy being the centre of attention and are active and noisy. They're intelligent and curious pets with a particular love of climbing.



## Australian Mist

Perfect for those who have children, an Australian Mist is a sweet, loving and affectionate cat, specially bred in Australia. They have a short, dense coat with multi-coloured dark spots on a light, 'misted' beige background. Super affectionate, they love playing games with their humans and can be trained.

## Burmese

Spirited and intelligent, a Burmese cat can be taught to fetch toys and will love playing games with the family. They enjoy being the main attraction and prefer not to be left alone for long periods of time. They're gentle with children and will even befriend other cats or dogs in your house. Expect some noise as they tend to be quite vocal. They're fantastic lap-warmers and love nothing more than being cuddled.



## Ragdoll

Calm and contented with a laid-back disposition, Ragdolls are social cats who love affection, and get along well with other animals and children. They're often compared to dogs because of their friendliness and intelligence. Although not very vocal, Ragdolls can make themselves heard if they're feeling anxious or looking for their family members.

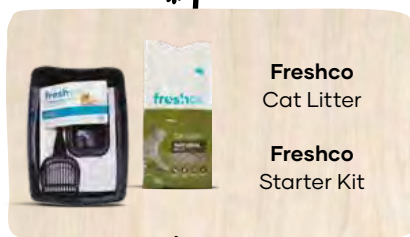


# Kitten development

**Bringing a kitten into your home is an important and exciting milestone. It's only the first of many as your pet grows into an adult cat.**

## Newborn

Kittens at this stage rely solely on their mother until they're three or four weeks old. A kitten at birth will weigh around 100 grams.



**Freshco**  
Cat Litter

**Freshco**  
Starter Kit

## 2 to 6 weeks

A kitten's eyes will start to open and their sense of smell and hearing will improve. This is when an intestinal worming regime should start. Your kitten requires worming every fortnight until 12 weeks of age, then monthly until six months old. Their first teeth will start to come in. Introduce drinking water and wet food, as well as a litter box.

### They'll need:

- Worming treatment
- Litter and litter box
- Super premium wet kitten food made from quality ingredients to help them grow strong

You can book your vet appointments online!



Visit [greencrossvets.com.au/book-online](https://greencrossvets.com.au/book-online)

See **page 66** for a **'\$40 off your next vaccination or Healthy Pets Plus membership!**



**Hill's Science Diet**  
Dry Kitten Food

**Hill's Science Diet**  
Wet Kitten Food

## 6 to 8 weeks

Kittens should have their first veterinary health check and start their vaccination program between six and eight weeks of age, which will help protect them from disease and illness. If your cat is going to be exposed to the outdoors, protecting them from Feline AIDS is recommended with the incorporation of an FIV vaccination which can be administered at eight weeks of age. They should be eating mostly solids and regular small meals each day.

## 10 to 12 weeks

Between 10-12 weeks, kittens are ready to go to their new home! Your kitten will start to come out of their shell and exhibit playful behaviour. This is the time when they'll require their second booster vaccination.

### They'll need:

- Cat carrier
- Bedding
- Collar, ID tag and bell
- A vet visit
- Cat Scratcher & Toys



**All Day**  
Kitten collars

## 14 to 16 weeks

At 14-16 weeks of age, your kitten can have their third booster vaccination. From here, your veterinarian, in consultation with you, will determine your feline friend's long-term vaccine program. The recommendations will be guided by your cat's lifestyle and environment.



**Revolution Plus**  
For small cats  
and kittens

## They're an adult cat!



## 12 months onwards



Your cat is now considered an adult! They'll need to switch to adult cat food to better suit their metabolism.

### They'll need:

- Super premium adult cat food
- New collar and bed based on their growth
- Regular vet visits



Greencross  
Vets

For information on getting your pet desexed, visit your local **Greencross Vets**.

## 6 to 12 months



From six months onwards, your kitten is in their adolescent stage, which can last until they're 18 months old. Depending on your product, you should be worming your kitten routinely every three months from this point onwards. This age is also an important milestone for desexing your kitten. Kittens are typically desexed by or from four months of age, however, the right age is different for each pet. Your Greencross Vet can recommend the best time for your kitten to be desexed.

### They'll need:

- Flea, tick and worming treatments
- Dental care essentials
- A vet visit

**Drool**  
By Dr Chris Brown  
Teeth + Breath Cat  
Treats







# How to prepare your home



Comfort

**Getting your home in order will make sure your kitten has a safe and secure environment when they arrive.**

## **Remove dangerous obstacles**

Your kitten is a curious little pet that will want to play and explore. Your job is to make sure that dangerous items, such as cords, are out of harm's way.

## **Store chemicals securely**

Make sure you store any hazardous chemicals such as bleach or floor cleaner out of your kitten's reach, as their curiosity can easily get them into a lot of trouble.

## **Organise their bed**

Kittens spend a lot of time sleeping, up to 16 hours per day on average. All this rest helps with growth and development. It's essential that you provide a comfortable bed to snuggle in that's warm, cosy and safe.

## Gather the toys

Kittens need lots of toys to play with as they are extremely active – have a variety of wand, catnip and puzzle toys on hand to keep yours entertained.

## Prepare your kids

If you have young children, it's really important to explain that they must be gentle with the new kitten. Children will want to snuggle and play. At first, this has to be limited as your kitten needs a lot of rest and may feel overwhelmed. Ensure strings, hair elastics, rubber bands and threads are out of kittens reach

## Find a good litter and tray

Litter is an essential on the kitten checklist and it's best that you find a litter

and tray that your kitten is comfortable with sooner rather than later, so they can start using it. You may need to trial a number of varieties of litter before you find the best one for your kitten.

## Be ready for accidents

Kittens are very clean pets. That said, they're bound to have the odd accident just like any other pet, so it's best to be prepared. Have clean-up products on hand that are pet-friendly, as this is the best way to avoid mishaps with chemicals.

## Don't forget their food

As obvious as it sounds, before you bring your kitten home, make sure you're well stocked with food and treats. Look for food that's specially formulated for kittens, if you're not

sure what's best, just ask a friendly Petbarn team member. Treats are also important, as you can use them to reward your kitten when you're working on their behaviour.

## A scratching post is a must

Scratching is a natural behaviour so you don't want to discourage it, but you don't want your furniture ripped apart either. Have a scratching post in place from day one and make sure your kitten knows that it's okay to scratch away on it.

## Pick up a carrier

A good cat carrier is essential for getting your new pet home and taking trips to the vet.

## Their first night

- ❑ Set up a designated space for their bed
- ❑ Don't let them settle in your bed
- ❑ Make sure they can snuggle into blankets
- ❑ Ensure they have access to fresh water and their litter tray
- ❑ If you hear them crying, just make sure they're warm
- ❑ Be aware that they will take time to adjust to your sleep patterns
- ❑ If they are struggling to sleep, consider a crate for them to sleep in



# Common household items dangerous to cats

**When kitten-proofing your home, it's important to secure any items that can be dangerous to your curious feline friend. Here's our list of everyday household items that you might not know are toxic to cats:**

## Certain types of plants

Plants and flowers are beautiful additions to homes, but some types can be very toxic to cats. Avoid plants like Lilies, Aloe Vera, Azalea, Rhododendron, Baby's Breath, Chrysanthemum, Daffodils, Ivy, Morning Glory, Poinsettia, Tomato Plant and Tulips in the home and garden as small amounts when ingested can cause serious harm to your cat. The most common toxic plants to cats are lillies - all parts of this plant are toxic and can cause irreversible kidney failure.

## Cleaning products

Common household cleaners like laundry detergents, bathroom cleaners and

bleach are dangerous to cats so make sure to keep your cat out of the room when you are using these products. Store them safely and out of reach from your pets.

## Medication

Human medications like paracetamol tablets and ibuprofen are lethal to cats so it's important to keep the medicine drawer secure. Do not give human medication to your pet and make sure you consult your vet before giving your cat any medication.

## Certain human foods

Human foods and household items can be toxic to cats. Avoid giving your kitten foods which contain onion, garlic,

coffee and tea, grapes and raisins, chocolate and dairy.

Contrary to popular belief, some cats may not tolerate dairy products and even small amounts of dairy products like milk may cause issues such as diarrhoea.

We recommend keeping these items out of your cat's reach by removing them from the home, moving them to an area your cat does not have access to, or storing them in a safe and secure manner.

Hair elastics, threads and rubber bands are common household items and all attempts should be made to avoid access to them.



If your kitten has, or may have consumed any of the items on this list, **refer to your local Greencross Vets or emergency vet immediately for treatment.**

**If after hours go to your nearest Emergency Vet**

Visit [greencrossvets.com.au/emergency-care](https://greencrossvets.com.au/emergency-care) for a list of 24/7 hospitals near you.





# Kitty must-dos

**There are plenty of life-admin tasks you can put off for a few months, the paperwork for your new kitten isn't one of them.**





## Microchipping and registration

First on the list of paperwork for your new kitten: the local council will want to know about your pet's new home sooner rather than later. In some council jurisdictions, fines apply for unregistered cats. If your kitten was registered under a previous parent, you must complete a council transfer of ownership form. You'll want to have your kitten's microchip data on hand, proof of desexing as well as any concession cards you hold.

## Pure-bred kitten records

Before welcoming a new cat to your family, get to know their feline family tree. Kittens from a breeder may come with papers that show they've been registered with the relevant breed association or club. Ask the breeder for the registration of your kitten's parents, including certificates showing they've been screened for common hereditary diseases.

## Health checklist

Registered breeders and pet adoption centres will have taken your kitten for their first vet health check, which includes the first round of vaccinations, microchipping and more.

Be sure to get a record of the following so that you know when to book your kitten in for their next visit:

- ❑ First vet health check
- ❑ Microchipping
- ❑ Vaccination record
- ❑ Parasite prevention plan

It's handy to keep a record of this information to stay up-to-date with your kitten's health.



### **Healthy Pets Plus**

Greencross Vets' Healthy Pets Plus wellness membership program makes doing the right thing for your kitten simple and affordable. Membership benefits include unlimited consultations, free vaccinations and microchipping, free WebVet advice 24/7 and exclusive discounts!

Visit [greencrossvets.com.au/healthy-pets-plus](https://greencrossvets.com.au/healthy-pets-plus) to learn more.



For all your kitten health care needs, visit your local Greencross Vets.

**See page 66 for a '\$40 off your next vaccination or Healthy Pets Plus membership**



# What should I feed my kitten?



**Kittens grow rapidly in the first six months of their life, and need to be fed a complete and balanced diet. A super premium food is the best way to support your kitten's development into a happy and healthy cat.**

## When you first get your kitten

You shouldn't change your kitten's food in the first few days in their new home. Moving house and changing families is very stressful and can affect your kitten's digestive system. Keeping them on the diet they're used to will reduce the chance of an upset stomach or diarrhoea.

When you are ready to change your kitten's diet, do so slowly over the course of 10 days, gradually introducing their new food mixed with the old one.





## How to choose the best kitten food

Select a food that is marked as being for kittens. These diets are specifically formulated to meet the developmental needs of cats less than 12 months of age. Be aware that the quality of the range will vary. We recommend feeding a super-premium food that is backed by science and contains high quality ingredients for better nutrition.

Choose a food that contains real meat such as chicken as the first ingredient. As a rule, kittens should get about 30% of their energy from protein, so provide a diet that contains a high quality source of protein.

Check the label and look for a balance of real proteins, fats and oils, minerals, vitamins, and carbohydrates. Labels that list wholegrain cereals, or cereal and meat by-products as the first ingredient, contain less quality protein compared to a kitten diet with chicken as the first ingredient.

Do not feed them food meant for adult cats until they are 12 months of age, as they are still developing and have very different dietary needs than their adult counterparts.

## How often should I feed my kitten?

In order for them to absorb all the nutrients they need, it's important to feed them 4 times per day until they reach 6 months of age. Once they are six months old, you can reduce the number of feeds to two per day. You may even decide to leave their food out as some cats prefer to graze throughout the day rather than have set meal times. Follow the feeding guide on your kitten food label.

With all the options available, choosing the right food for your kitten can be tricky. That's where we can help – come into one of our Petbarn stores for a chat with one of our pet nutrition-trained team members and we'll help you find the right food for your kitten. You can also try our online Food Finder quiz for a personalised recommendation (see page 28).



## We recommend



**Royal Canin**  
Dry Kitten Food



**Advance**  
Dry Kitten Food



**Hill's Science Diet**  
Dry Kitten Food



## Frequent Feeder

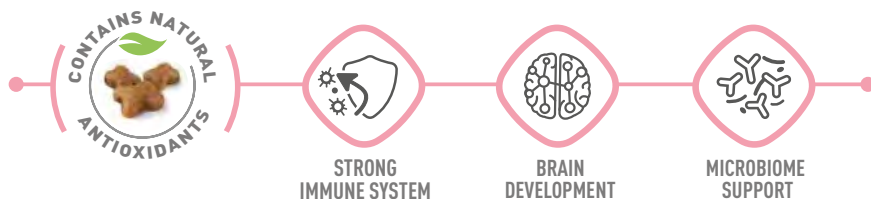


Save up to 25% on selected kitten food\*. Learn more on pg 67.

# HEALTH IS LIFE'S FOUNDATION

Your kitten's nutrition plays a key role in their physical and mental development. With over 50 years of nutrition expertise, ROYAL CANIN® products address every requirement to give your kitten the best start in life.

**ROYAL CANIN® super premium nutrition is tailored too help build your kitten's natural defences enabling healthy growth and digestive support.**



\*For full terms and conditions see  
[www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions](http://www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions)

# Super premium food

## What is super premium food?

Not all kitten and cat food is equal. 'Super premium' refers to the high quality of the ingredients and formulations. Compared to options typically found in supermarkets, super premium food is complete and balanced, vitamin-rich and nutritionally dense food with quality proteins, fats and carbohydrates for healthier kittens.

## Why feed a super premium diet?

Kittens develop rapidly, both physically and mentally so they need food that's specifically formulated to support their needs at this stage of life. Super premium food is nutritionally complete and balanced and encourages the healthy development of their immune system, brain development, joints, muscles and more. Once your kitten matures into an adult cat at

around 12 months, we highly recommend continuing them on super premium cat food.

## What about the cost?

You may think super premium diets are expensive compared with other brands. However, due to their high digestibility and calorie density, your cat needs a smaller portion to meet their nutritional needs. When this fact is taken into consideration and a cost per day is calculated, they compare favourably, especially when the quality of the ingredients and the benefits are factored in.

## Are you feeding your kitten right? The clue is in their poo!

Did you know that monitoring your kitten's litter box is one of the best ways to figure out if they're eating the right diet? After all, what goes in must come out.

A healthy cat poo should have the consistency of firm play dough and will be comfortable for them to pass and easy for you to scoop out. These poos should not contain an excess of fur and should be shiny due to the moisture content, but not coated in mucus.

Switch your kitten to super premium food today and you'll soon notice that they're producing smaller, firmer and less smelly poos!

## We recommend



**Advance**  
Chicken & Rice  
Kitten Food



**Advance**  
Chicken in Jelly  
Kitten Food

## Benefits of super premium food

- Formulated for specific breeds, life stages and health conditions.
- Promotes skin and coat health.
- No added artificial colours or flavour enhancers.
- DHA to enhance brain and nervous system development.
- Contains the highest quality ingredients.
- More nutritionally dense, resulting in lower cost per feed compared to non-premium food.
- Blend of vitamins and minerals for optimal health.
- Support for developing immune systems.



# starting life out strong

## Frequent Feeder



Save up to 25% on selected kitten food\*. Learn more on pg 67.



Supports bone & muscle development to help young pets grow big and strong

## SCIENCE DID THAT.



DHA from fish oil for healthy brain & eye development



Balanced minerals for strong bones & teeth



High-quality protein for building lean muscles



Clinically proven antioxidants Vitamin C+E to support the development of a healthy immune system

\*For full terms and conditions see [www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions](http://www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions)

Expert Pet Nutrition™

# ADVANCE™

## Getting the best start in life



### Congratulations on your new family member!

With their energy and enthusiasm, a kitten brings a wealth of love to a home. Kittenhood is, however, a critical time and how a kitten is fed will affect their future growth.

### Why feed ADVANCE™?

Using the best of global science, local knowledge and consumer insights, ADVANCE™ uses only quality ingredients to produce one of Australia's highest quality controlled super premium pet foods.

## ADVANCE™ Kitten food range

This product is also formulated to support breeding cats throughout pregnancy and lactation.



ADVANCE™ Kitten  
- Chicken with Rice

ADVANCE™ Kitten has rehydratable kibble that can be softened with warm water.



ADVANCE™ Kitten  
- with Chicken  
in Jelly 85g



ADVANCE™ Kitten  
- with Lamb  
in Gravy 85g



ADVANCE™ Kitten  
- Tender Chicken  
Delight 85g



ADVANCE™ Kitten  
- Chicken & Salmon  
Medley 85g

When feeding both ADVANCE™ dry and wet food, simply halve the recommended quantities of each product and let your pet enjoy the advantages of both formats.

## ADVANCE™ is scientifically formulated to help improve cat health

### ADVANCE™ Kitten Dry formula contains:



#### Natural Colostrum

Helps defend against digestive upsets.



#### Omega 3 DHA and Choline

To support healthy vision and brain development, to help encourage a kitten's learning.



#### Antioxidant Vitamins C and E

Clinically proven to increase antioxidant level. Helps provide a natural defence for your cat against Australia's climate.



#### Omega 3 and 6 Plus Zinc

To maintain a healthy skin and coat with reduced coat scale.



#### Fermentable Prebiotic Fibre

To support digestion and a healthy gut microbiome.

## Frequent Feeder



Save up to 25% on selected kitten food\*. Learn more on pg 67.



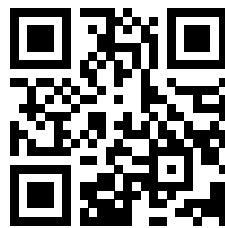
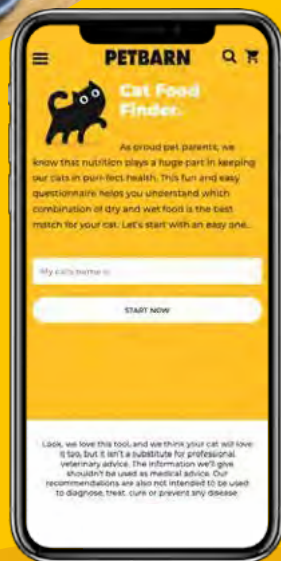


# Find the right diet for your kitten

with our online Food Finder.

This simple tool will recommend the purrfect combination of wet and dry food for your kitten based on their unique needs.

**Search for  
'Petbarn cat food finder'**



Scan here with your phone camera!

# Wet or dry food?

**As wet and dry cat food both provide so many unique benefits to your cat, it can be hard to choose between them. The great thing is that you don't have to!**

When it comes to feeding your cat, a mixture of kibble and wet food can be the best option. Just make sure that you adjust the recommended portion sizes of each so that you don't overfeed your furred feline.

## Benefits of wet food

### For fussy eaters

Compared to dry food, wet food has a stronger aroma. The enhanced smell makes this food more palatable for fussy kittens and there are lots of flavours and textures available to suit your kitten's tastes. A bit of wet food mixed in with dry kibble can be all it takes to encourage your kitten to eat.

### Increased hydration

Kittens can be peculiar about drinking water which means they may be more prone to urinary tract disease. A benefit of wet kitten food is that it has a

high moisture content which helps your kitten to increase their water intake. This is vital for urinary tract health.

### Weight management

As wet food contains less energy content than dry food, it will help your kitten maintain a healthy weight. If your kitten is overweight, switching them to wet food can help them lose weight as this diet contains less fibre and carbohydrates and the higher water content helps them to feel more satisfied.

## Benefits of dry food

### Flexible feeding

For kittens who like to eat on their own schedule, dry food is very convenient because you can leave it in your kitten's bowl all day for them to nibble on whenever they feel like it. In comparison, wet food should not be left out for prolonged periods or in the heat of the day.

### Improves dental health

Certain formulations of dry food can improve your kitten's dental health as the shape and texture of the individual pieces of kibble help to reduce plaque and

tartar build up and freshen your kitten's breath as they eat.

### More economical

A major benefit of dry food is how much more economical it is compared to wet food. You can buy it in bulk and store it for longer. Especially if you're feeding more than one kitten, dry food will be more economical for you in the long run.

## We recommend



**Purina Pro Plan**  
Chicken Kitten Food



**Purina Pro Plan**  
Chicken Kitten Pouch



**Ivory Coat**  
Dry Kitten Food



**Ivory Coat**  
Wet Kitten Food



**The Nosh Project**  
Chicken Kitten Meal



The  
**Nosh**  
Project.

# Nothing's made like Nosh



See Page 66 to redeem your free sample of The Nosh Project.

**The Nosh Project's Slow Cooked Chicken bowl for Kittens is made with quality fresh Aussie ingredients, specially balanced with the 29 vitamins, minerals, and fatty acids that are vital for the growth and development of your pet.**

If you are cooking meals at home, simply add The Nosh Project's Kitten Nourish29 Balance to our specially formulated recipes to ensure you have the right mix of nutrients to meet your growing kitten's dietary needs.

**Shop The Nosh Project exclusively  
at Petbarn, City Farmers,  
and Greencross Vets**



# Vet health checks

A healthy kitten is a happy one, so it's important to regularly see the vet. Here's everything you need to know about your kitten's vet visits.



## Greencross Vets is part of our Petbarn family

Together we are here to provide the best care for your kitten. The friendly team at Greencross Vets are here to answer any questions you may have and it's easy to find a Greencross Vets close to you. Your local

team of vets and nurses are passionate about pets and will ensure that you and your pet always receive the highest standard of veterinary care.

To locate your nearest Greencross Vets and book an appointment, visit [greencrossvets.com.au](https://greencrossvets.com.au)

## First steps

It's recommended to take your kitten to your local Greencross Vets within a week of bringing them home. The vet will perform a full physical examination from nose to tail and discuss the best preventative health care plan with you, which will include your new kitten's

vaccination schedule. Monitor your kitten's behaviour around the home before their first vet visit so that you can discuss any behaviour or health concerns that you may have.



**Greencross  
Vets**

Learn more about your kitten's first health check at [greencrossvets.com.au/kitten-health-check](https://greencrossvets.com.au/kitten-health-check)

## Regular health checks

It's important to take your cat to the vet every 6 months to keep them healthy and ensure early detection of disease or illness. Greencross Vets keeps detailed health records for your pet, so even if you move house, you'll have peace of mind knowing that your pet's records can easily be accessed at your new Greencross Vets location. You know your pet best so tell the vet anything out of the ordinary that you've noticed.

## Healthy tips for kitten parents

Zoonotic diseases are those that humans can contract from animals or, sometimes the reverse, from humans to animals. It's best to stay on top of your pet's health care to keep all members of your family safe.

You can reduce the risk of zoonotic diseases by:

- Washing your hands frequently.
- Cleaning out litter trays regularly.
- Disposing of faeces in the tray quickly.
- Wearing gloves when gardening.
- Worming your cat regularly.
- Keeping your children's hands clean after playing or touching pets.
- Immunocompromised pet parents, pet parents on certain human medication or undergoing chemotherapy should take precautions to minimise zoonotic disease.

## Common health problems

As kittens' immune systems are still developing, and they've just moved homes, it's really important to watch out for any worrying symptoms. Kittens are good at hiding that they're unwell but you may notice a lack of energy or a change in behaviour.

**Signs that may indicate your kitten is unwell:**

- Lethargy
- Diarrhoea
- Vomiting
- Sneezing

- Runny eyes
- Difficulty defecating
- Trouble urinating
- Loss of appetite

**Common causes of stress:**

- Meeting new people
- Moving house
- Travelling in the car
- Fireworks
- Storms
- Loud noises
- New family members
- Changing cat litter, litter tray type or location



**Greencross  
Vets**

If you notice any of the symptoms listed or anything out of the ordinary, speak to your local Greencross Vet.

**\$40 off your  
next vaccination**

at your local  
Greencross Vets.

**Get your voucher on pg 66.**

# Preparing for your kitten's veterinary needs

## The cost of pet care

The joy of becoming a pet parent for the first time is invaluable, but there are a number of ongoing and sometimes unforeseen costs which are essential to maintain your pet's health. While human healthcare is supported by the government, unfortunately our pets are not. Pet parents are financially responsible for all veterinary care costs and it's important to understand these costs when choosing your pet.

## What is pet insurance?

Pet insurance is designed to help pet owners with veterinary expenses in case of any unexpected illness or injury for their pets. You can gain peace of mind knowing eligible vet bills for illness and accidental injuries will be covered, providing financial aid in

difficult times. With most insurance policies, there are a number of different cover options to suit your needs.

## Why do you need it?

Things don't always go to plan, and this is where pet insurance can assist so you can focus on choosing the best care for your pet. If your pet falls ill or gets injured, having pet insurance will provide peace of mind and reduce financial stress if you have to make unexpected trips to the vet.

## When should I get it?

Kittens are naturally curious and adventurous, and therefore injury prone, so the likelihood of injury at this time is high. You can take out insurance from when they are 8 weeks of age.







# What are the benefits of Petbarn Insurance?

- Helps lessen the financial burden of unexpected vet bills — claim up to 100% on eligible vet bills on our Total Cover\* plan
- Helps pet owners to focus on choosing the best treatment options rather than costs
- No overall policy limit (up to applicable benefit limits)
- Claim on the spot and only pay the gap for eligible vet bills at select clinics with GapOnly
- 10% discount if you insure more than one pet
- 3 levels of cover to choose from and flexible payment options to suit your needs
- A copy of our Little Black Book of Savings, offering more than \$1,000 of value in vouchers and discounts

\*65% for pets over 8 years old.

## Common conditions treated

Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances can affect us at any time. Here are some of the most common conditions, with the average costs that our customers claim for:

Condition	Avg. Cost*	Max. Vet Treatment Cost
Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD)	\$1,638	\$47,693
Vomiting	\$592	\$10,784
Diarrhoea	\$443	\$6,904
Hyperthyroidism	\$1,069	\$4,768
Osteoarthritis (arthritis)	\$508	\$5,524

\*Based on PetSure claims data from 2021

Visit [petbarn.com.au/services/pet-insurance](https://petbarn.com.au/services/pet-insurance) to learn more and get a quick quote or call **1300 618 412**.

# Protection that shows how much you care

**With 3 levels of cover available, you can find the best match for you and your kitten.**



## **Core Cover**

Want cover for just the basics?



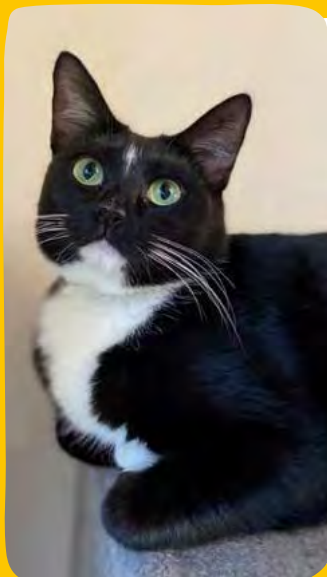
## **Core Plus Cover**

For a little more peace of mind



## **Total Cover**

Most extensive level of coverage



### **Danielle saved \$862 when Eleven was bitten by another cat**

"We chose Petbarn insurance after quoting with several companies, the price was good and process of setting up the policy was straightforward and quick.

We claimed after Eleven developed an infection from a cat bite, she required surgery and was in hospital for two days.

Whilst we would never hesitate to get treatment for our pets it was helpful to know we didn't have to worry about the inevitably large bill that comes with out of hours care. Processing the claim was straight forward and the money came back quickly, and, most importantly, Eleven is well after receiving the best care!"

- Danielle

Visit **[petbarn.com.au/services/pet-insurance](https://petbarn.com.au/services/pet-insurance)** to learn more and get a quick quote or call **1300 618 412**.





# Vaccinations

## Why should I vaccinate my kitten?

Kitten vaccinations are necessary to protect your pet against harmful but preventable diseases in our environment and are a crucial part of the preventative care you should provide your kitten. By vaccinating them, you safeguard your kitten from contracting severe illnesses that can have major health implications.

## Is your kitten going outdoors?

If you plan to allow your kitten outdoors and to socialise with other cats, speak to your Greencross Vets about including the Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) vaccine in their vaccination program. This disease is highly contagious between cats and cannot be cured so it's vital that you protect your kitten by building their immunity when they are young.

## Vaccinations and socialisation

Kittens should be exposed to a variety of new situations and environments at a young age so they do not become fearful and display antisocial behaviour as adults.

Take care to only socialise your kitten with vaccinated cats and avoid taking them outside until they have received their full course of vaccinations, bearing in mind some cats prefer to be alone. Ten days after receiving their final kitten vaccination, they will be fully protected and it's safe for them to go outside.



For more information on kitten vaccinations visit [greencrossvets.com.au/services/kitten-vaccinations/](https://greencrossvets.com.au/services/kitten-vaccinations/)

## Vaccination schedule

**6–8  
weeks old**

First  
vaccination

**10–12  
weeks old**

Booster  
vaccination

**14–16  
weeks old**

Final kitten  
vaccination

Your adult cat will need regular booster vaccinations to ensure long-term immunity. Your vet will recommend an ongoing plan for vaccinating your adult cat based on their lifestyle and environment.



## Healthy Pets Plus

### What is Healthy Pets Plus?

Healthy Pets Plus is developed by veterinarians and is exclusive to Greencross Vets. It's a proactive, preventative health care program designed to keep your pet healthier and happier for longer. At Petbarn and Greencross Vets, we believe proactive care not only improves your pet's quality of life, it adds years to it. The Healthy Pets Plus program makes doing the right thing for your pet simple and affordable.

### How does it work?

The Healthy Pets Plus membership program includes a complete standard of preventative care services for your feline companion and allows you to spread these costs over a 12-month period.

Bringing your kitten for regular check-ups allows your Greencross Veterinarian to evaluate their general well-being and identify any health issues before they become serious illnesses. Your kitten can't tell you how they're feeling, so making use of the unlimited free veterinary consultations and scheduling regular check-ups will give you peace of mind and confidence that your kitten is healthy and happy.



Unlimited in-clinic  
Consultations  
& WebVet  
Consultations



Free Vaccinations  
and Microchipping



\$200 off  
Dental Care



20% off Parasite  
Prevention



20% off Cat Food\*  
\*Selected brands sold at  
Greencross Vets



10% off Products,  
Services and  
Medication



Annual Health  
Screening Test

**Enjoy one month free of Healthy Pets Plus.  
Visit page 66 for details.**

Visit [greencrossvets.com.au/healthy-pets-plus](https://greencrossvets.com.au/healthy-pets-plus)  
or scan the code to learn more.



# Teething

Much like us, kittens are born without teeth. Their first baby teeth appear when they are around 2 weeks of age. These deciduous milk teeth will start to fall out when they are around 16 weeks old, and the kitten's permanent adult teeth then grow in.

This means that kittens teethe twice in their lives – once for their set of baby teeth and again with their adult teeth. Teething may cause a small amount of pain or discomfort. They may feel a bit sore as their sharp new teeth emerge from their gums.

Compared to puppies, kittens will not engage in as much haphazard chewing throughout their teething process. You should still provide them with appropriate chew toys so they are not tempted to gnaw on other objects.

## Signs your kitten is teething:

- Missing teeth
- Pawing at the mouth and shaking their heads
- Increased chewing
- Kitten is more irritable
- Reduced appetite
- Slight gum bleeding
- Face sensitivity
- Decreased grooming activity

## When is it necessary to see the vet?

If baby teeth have not fallen out when adult teeth are emerging, this can cause problems. Look out for overcrowding and misalignments in their mouths, like the appearance of two rows of teeth.

Symptoms of irritation in your kitten's mouth may include red, inflamed gums with discharge, which will require veterinary treatment.

## Your kitten's teeth won't look after themselves

As your kitten starts to settle in with you, you should accustom them to having their mouth examined. This will help you maintain their dental hygiene and make it easier for the vet to inspect their teeth further down the track.

To ensure your pet's ongoing dental health you should brush their teeth every day with a pet-friendly toothbrush and pet toothpaste. You can also use water additives and food and treats that have dental benefits.

## Dental health kit



**Tropiclean**  
Fresh Breath  
Cat Water  
Additive



**Drool by**  
Dr Chris Brown  
Teeth &  
Breath Treats



**Tropiclean**  
Cat Clean  
Teeth Gel



Greencross  
Vets

Learn more about kitten  
teething and book in  
a dental check-up at  
[greencrossvets.com.au/  
kitten-teething](https://www.greencrossvets.com.au/kitten-teething)



**WebVet**  
Greencross Vets

Free for  
**Healthy  
Pets Plus**  
members!

# Looking for kitten advice? Can't get to the vet? Is your vet closed?

You can now have peace of mind that you can speak with a vet anytime, anywhere. WebVet connects Pet Parents to our dedicated and qualified team of Veterinarians who are available 24/7 via video call.

Having a new kitten can be daunting and it's ok to have lots of questions, our friendly vet team are here to help. You can speak with a vet from the comfort of your home and to get all the answers you need. You can even show the WebVet exactly what your kitten is doing at home via video!

To speak with a vet, visit  
**[greencrossvets.com.au/webvet](https://greencrossvets.com.au/webvet)**  
or scan the code.



# Pet Emergency?

In an emergency, a quick response can make all the difference. Common signs of pet emergencies are:

- Severe bleeding or continuous bleeding
- Choking, difficulty breathing or change to breathing and excessive panting
- Coughing up blood, or blood in urine
- Pain with bowel movements or inability to go to the toilet
- Severe vomiting or diarrhea
- Suspected or know they have eaten something poisonous (e.g. chocolate, rat poison, slug/snail bait, grapes, raisins, sultanas, medication, etc)
- Seizures or paralysis
- Obvious signs of pain or extreme anxiety
- Trauma or suspected trauma e.g. hit by car, fallen from height, etc
- Unsteady walking and unusual bloating



With over 20 locations across Australia whether your pet needs 24/7 emergency veterinary treatment, or specialist care, our network of emergency and referral hospitals offer a range of services to help pets live their best life, 365 days of the year.



ANIMAL  
REFERRAL HOSPITAL



Melbourne Veterinary  
Specialist Centre



ADELAIDE VETERINARY  
SPECIALIST & REFERRAL CENTRE



## NEW SOUTH WALES & ACT

Animal Referral Hospital:

Homebush 02 9639 7744

Baulkham Hills 02 9758 8666

Gosford 02 4323 3886

Wollongong 02 4283 8432

Canberra 02 6280 6344

## VICTORIA

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AEC Frankston 03 9770 5555

AEC Mt Waverley 03 9803 8122

VRH Dandenong 1300 385 874

ARH Essendon Fields 03 9379 0700

GVH Werribee 03 8721 1414

MVSC Essendon Fields\* 03 9374 3644

MVSC Glen Waverly\* 03 9887 8844

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

AVSARC\* 08 8132 0533

AEC Adelaide 08 8362 1722

AAERC 08 8371 0333

## QUEENSLAND

AEC Woolloongabba 07 3456 0500

AEC Varsity Lakes 07 5593 4544

AEC Noosa 07 5353 7005

ARH Brisbane 07 3172 0593

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AEC Midland 08 6500 3010

\*Specialist vet referral centre only



Visit  
[greencrossvets.com.au/  
emergency-care](https://greencrossvets.com.au/emergency-care)  
or scan the code.

# The importance of desexing

## What is desexing?

Surgical desexing is a safe and routine procedure which is done under a general anaesthetic. When a female kitten is desexed, which is also known as spaying, their ovaries and uterus are removed. For male kittens, the neutering process involves the removal of both testicles. Female cats take about 10 days to recover, whereas male cats require about 7 days. Your little one will be back on their feet and up to their usual antics in no time!

## Why should I desex my kitten?

Petbarn and Greencross Vets highly recommend that you desex your kitten. Unwanted litters will add to the already enormous problem of cats in shelters and living as strays. It is also mandatory to desex your cat by a certain age in the Australian states of ACT, SA, TAS and WA. In NSW, desexing is recommended by the State Government and owners of cats

not desexed by four months of age will be required to pay an \$80 annual permit in addition to their pet registration fee.

Desexing will also provide your pet with many health benefits. For female cats, it will prevent unwanted pregnancies, uterine infections and mammary tumours in the future. For male cats, neutering helps to control behavioural issues driven by hormones, such as roaming, fighting and spraying, and also reduces the risk of prostatic diseases and eliminates the risk of testicular cancers.

## When is it best to desex my kitten?

Kittens can be desexed from 3–6 months of age, before they reach puberty. However each kitten is unique and the best age will depend on their breed, size and lifestyle. The team at your local Greencross Vets can provide advice on the best time to desex your kitten.



## Myths and facts

### **Myth: Desexing will change my pet's personality.**

**Fact:** This procedure will only change your cat's behaviour for the better. Once they mature, undesexed male and female cats become consumed with finding a mate which can cause undesirable behaviours such as roaming the neighbourhood for a mate or competition

which exposes them to the risk of contracting Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and other diseases.

### **Myth: Females should have a litter before being desexed.**

**Fact:** This is not recommended. In fact, desexing a cat before her first heat will greatly reduce the risk of diseases relating to the reproductive organs.

### **Myth: Desexing will cause my pet to become overweight.**

**Fact:** Desexing is typically done at an age when rapid kitten growth is decreasing and diet control is necessary. However overfeeding and lack of exercise are the culprits if your pet is gaining weight, not desexing.





# Parasite prevention

**Kittens are susceptible to fleas, ticks and worms. The good news is that they can be treated and often prevented.**

Fleas, ticks and worms exist all year round in our environment and some of these parasites can even spread to humans. Taking a proactive approach to your kitten's parasite prevention will help to protect every member of your family.

## **Important to note:**

- You must use a combination of products in order to fully protect your kitten from parasites.
- Regardless of what time of year it is, or whether your kitten never leaves the house, they are still vulnerable to contracting parasites and will always need protection.
- No matter their age, dog parasite prevention medications should never be given to a cat as these can seriously harm your pet.

## **How can I prevent parasites?**

Over-the-counter prevention can be administered as a tablet, spot-on or spray. These products have unique benefits with some providing protection from more than one parasite including fleas, ticks, intestinal worms and even heartworm. Some brands are safe to use on kittens from 2-6 weeks of

age and will protect your cat from a range of parasites. Be sure to carefully read and follow the instructions on the packet.

### **Fleas**

While we normally associate warm weather with fleas, they are resilient all year round and will stay present in your kitten's fur and environment, waiting for the ideal temperature and humidity to hatch. Maintaining flea control for your kitten will go a long way towards preventing an infestation in your home.

### **Ticks**

Regularly applying tick control products will reduce the likelihood of your kitten suffering the life-threatening consequences of a paralysis tick bite. However, it's important to use a product that is safe and designed for use on cats. Check their skin and fur daily for ticks, especially if they are allowed outdoors and you are in a tick prone area.

### **Intestinal worms**

Kittens are susceptible to intestinal worms passed on from their mother, for example

## D Health

while nursing, and require different worming treatments than adult cats. Kittens need to be wormed every two weeks from when they are 2 weeks old until they are 12 weeks old, and then every month until they are 6 months old. After that, depending on the product, you need to worm your cat routinely every three months.

### Heartworm

Mosquitoes can infect your kitten with heartworm – long, thin worms that infest the heart and surround blood vessels. Heartworm can be fatal, and can easily go unnoticed in cats, so if you are in an area with mosquitoes it's crucial to prevent this infection in order to keep your kitten healthy.

Medication can differ depending on your kitten's weight and age so make sure to ask your local Petbarn team member if you're unsure what's the best option for your kitten.

### We recommend

Pets need a combination of treatments for full protection against fleas, ticks and worms.



**Revolution Plus**  
Flea, Tick and  
Worm Treatment



**Drontal**  
Cat Allwormer

# Looking for the best parasite prevention for your kitten?

Find the right solution with our online Flea, Tick and Worm Treatment Finder quiz.



Scan here with your phone camera!



This simple quiz will recommend the best combination of products to ensure your kitten is 100% protected against the parasites in your area.

**Search for**  
**'Petbarn flea tick worm tool'**

# revolution<sup>®</sup> PLUS



## TOUGH ON PARASITES NOT YOUR COUCH

**Quick-drying, non-oily, formula that won't rub off  
and stays where it needs to – on your cat!**



- Adult fleas
- Flea larvae
- Heartworm
- Hookworm
- Lice
- Flea eggs
- Paralysis ticks
- Roundworm
- Ear mites



**Safe to give to cats from 1.25 kgs  
and 8 weeks of age**

**REDEEM TODAY TO GET 30% OFF  
THE REVOLUTION PLUS RANGE!\***



\*Offer valid until 30th November 2024. Offer not valid with any other offers and valid once per customer.

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**zoetis**

# Litter training



**While kittens take to litter trays fairly intuitively, getting this lesson right is key. Follow these steps and your kitten will be using the litter tray in no time.**

## 1. Find the right litter tray

You should look for a tray that's large enough for your kitten to move around in and one that has walls that aren't too high, so that they can easily climb in when it's time to go. Some kittens like more privacy, so you can also choose a tray with a fully covered lid.

## 2. Choose the best litter for you and them

Choosing the right litter for your kitten is just as important as the tray itself. Cat litter is available in a variety of materials and each have their pros and cons. Options vary from natural varieties, such as recycled paper, to clay litter, which forms clumps when wet for easy removal, and crystal litter, which locks in moisture and odour.

## 3. Find the right spot

Place the litter tray in a quiet spot out of the way of household traffic for privacy. The best place is in a corner of a room, away from their food and water bowl.

## 4. Manage their space

When you bring your new kitten home, it's best to allocate your pet a smaller space like the laundry until they get used to their new home. This helps with toilet training as it keeps them close to the litter tray when they need to go and encourages them to use it.

## 5. Multiple cats, multiple trays

If you are introducing a new kitten into a home that already has a resident cat, you need to make sure that each of the cats have their own litter tray that is kept in a separated area, plus one spare tray for the group. This will help to prevent any unwanted territorial behaviour and undesirable urination in the long run, which can be a common stress-related behaviour in multi-cat households.

## 6. Reinforce their good behaviour

If you want your kitten to quickly learn how to use their litter tray, you should get in the habit of physically placing them inside it when they first wake up in the morning, a few minutes after eating and drinking, and after play. Gently encourage them with your words and never raise your voice.

## Types of litter

### Clay cat litter

Clay forms solid clumps when wet for easy cleaning and waste removal.

### Natural cat litter

Eco-friendly option as the pellets are made from recycled paper.

### Corn substrate litter

A natural and biodegradable litter option that is highly absorbent and clumps for easy cleaning.

## We recommend



**Purrrfect Pet**  
Pine Cat Litter



**Breeder's Choice**  
Natural Kitten Litter



**Trouble & Trix**  
Natural Kitten Litter



**Freshco**  
Cat Litter

RUFUS & COCO®

# Wee Kitty®

Natural Kitty Litter for cats who care  
and the humans who love them



**Wee Kitty® is the most awarded and best-performing\* cat litter choice.**



Earth Friendly



Fast Odor Control



Extra Absorbent



Concentrated Clumping



Paw Friendly



Flushable & Septic Safe

## #ReduceYourPawprint

Did you know a single cat can contribute more than 200kg of litter to landfill each year?

**1 bag of Wee Kitty® litter  
= up to 4 bags of clay litter**



=



\*Independent lab tests performed by SGS 2020-2021 against 5 leading brands showed Wee Kitty® outperformed in clumping, liquid absorption, flushability and dusting.

## 20% OFF

When you purchase  
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AL24PKLV16

\*\*Available in-store and online at Petbarn and petbarn.com.au, while stocks last. One voucher per customer. Voucher is non-transferable and valid for one transaction only. 20% off RRP. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offer valid until 30/06/2024.



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## 35% off your first purchase!

Use code AL24PKLV15 in store. Offer period until 30/6/2024.



# Body language

**While having a chat with your cat may sound far-fetched, it turns out you and your kitten have a language all of your own.**

Kittens seem to pack a lot of personality into their tiny bodies! Your kitten will use a combination of vocalisations and body language to tell you what's going on in their world, it's just a matter of learning to interpret them.

## Cat chat

We've established that kittens only use their "meow" to talk to their humans. They don't really use their voice to communicate with other cats, except when fighting. Your kitten will use their voice to let you know what they need. When it comes to their body language, remember that not all cats are the same and to look at your cat's body language as a whole – that way, you won't take what they're trying to tell you out of context.

## Vet advice:

Stress related behaviours are very common in cats. Talk to your friendly Petbarn or Greencross Vets team to discuss the options available.



## Learning to decode kitten language



### I'm happy

- Tail extended straight up
- Eyes half closed
- Pupils narrowed
- Purring
- Whiskers naturally to the side
- Kneading a soft surface
- If their tail starts to quiver, don't think your cat's afraid or anxious, they are telling you that they're extremely content.



### I'm angry or irritated

- Tail swishing rapidly
- Ears flat on their head
- Whiskers curled forward
- Large or dilated pupils



### I'm feeling defensive

- Rolling on their back and exposing their stomach. This can sometimes mean your cat is content however, if they extend their claws and bare their teeth, it usually means they're preparing to fight.
- Hissing or growling
- Tail between their legs or a 'bushy' tail
- Crouched down low to the ground
- Dilated pupils



# Car safety

**Whether you're driving them to the vet or on holiday, it's important to keep your kitten comfortable and maximise their safety.**

The first step to your kitten's car safety is their cat carrier. You'll need to take your kitten to the vet regularly, so you need to ensure your kitten is comfortable with the experience and most importantly safe during the commute. Your kitten's carrier can be seen as a place of refuge by them, so make sure their first introduction to it is as anxiety-free as possible.

- Drive smoothly, without loud music, talking to your kitten in a soothing voice; the calmer you are the less anxious they'll be.
- If possible, keep windows closed for extra safety.
- If your kitten is reluctant, wrap them gently in a towel that has their scent or Feliway spray on it.

## Tips for a stress free car journey:

- Line the carrier with something soft like a towel or bed.
- Spray the carrier with Feliway prior to putting your cat in to alleviate stress.
- Bring some treats to reward good behaviour.
- If your kitten does not spontaneously enter the carrier, calmly place them into the carrier through the opening.
- Secure the carrier on the back seat of your car with the seatbelt, or against the front seat, and cover it with a towel.

## Use a calming pheromone

Keep your kitten calm during car trips with Feliway spray. Feliway contains a special scent that is a replication of the pheromone cats leave naturally when they are feeling comfortable in their environment. This scent is odourless to people and other animals but will reduce your kitten's stress and make them feel safe and secure.



**Feliway**  
Spray 60mL



**Nature's Miracle**  
Calming Spray

We also recommend:

# When you're away

**As much as you love your kitten, you may have to leave them behind from time to time. There are lots of options so you can have peace of mind on your trip.**

## **Ask friends or family**

If cost is a factor, you could consider asking a trusted friend, neighbour or family member to mind your kitten while you're away. Ideally, ask someone who is able to stay at your place and maintain your pet's normal diet and routine. If your kitten will need to go to a different house, check that it's escape-proof and take lots of home comforts to help them settle in, such as familiar toys, a crate, or cat carrier they can retreat to if they're feeling overwhelmed.

## **Use a boarding cattery or vet**

A boarding cattery is a facility that looks after a number of cats when their parents are away on holidays. There are catteries in all major cities and towns, and many vet clinics also offer cat boarding services. The main advantage of boarding your kitten with a vet is that there are experienced medical staff on hand should they become ill. Boarding catteries tend to offer larger quarters, as well as extras like indoor and enclosed play areas and TV's.

## **Use a professional cat sitter**

The next best thing to you being at home is hiring a professional pet minder, or cat-sitter, to either stay with your kitty for the duration of your holiday, or visit every day. The great thing about having someone care for your kitten in your own home is that they won't be stressed out by being taken away from their usual environment.



**Petbarn  
Hotel**

Petbarn offers drop off and pick ups at selected stores in NSW, ACT, QLD and VIC. Book in on our website, drop your pet off before 10am and they'll be taxied to their hotel.

Visit [petbarn.com.au/services/petbarn-hotel](https://petbarn.com.au/services/petbarn-hotel) for more information.



# Cat scratchers

**A cat scratcher is a must-have for any cat owner! Here's how to choose the best one for your kitten.**



## Why are scratchers important?

If you value your furniture then it's a very good idea to go out and find yourself a high quality cat scratcher! Scratching is a natural instinct for your kitten that helps them maintain the length of their nails, mark their territory and is also great for allowing them to stretch and giving them the exercise they need each day.

## What to consider when choosing a scratcher:

### 1. Size and weight

It's best to buy the tallest scratch post that you can fit in your home as you want your kitten to be able to stand on their hind legs and scratch upwards in their natural scratching position. It's also essential that you find one with a sturdy base

as wobbly and unstable scratchers are unsafe for your cat and they will not use them.

Cats prefer to be as high as possible as this gives them security and comfort.

### 2. Materials

The benefits of a scratcher covered in carpet is that you can find one to match your home décor, but the risk is that your kitten will think that the carpets on your floor are fair game as well. An alternative is sisal, a rope-like material that offers a rougher texture than carpet. Cats often prefer this material as the firmer substance offers better resistance when scratching and helps groom their nails as they pull.

### 3. Physical features

Look for a scratching post with fun hiding holes and walkways for your kitten to play on. The more fun you make it, the better chance

your cat will use this for scratching instead of your furniture!

## We recommend



**All Day**  
Cat Scratcher Tree



**All Day**  
Cat Scratch Post



**All Day**  
Cardboard Cat Scratch

# Tech advances

**Technology has come a long way! Us humans have enjoyed some pretty incredible advances and the pet world is no different. Here are some top tech buys for kittens.**

## Electronic feeders

These are fantastic for those who sometimes get held back at work. These programmable feeders will let you schedule multiple mealtimes in exact portions. If you're worried about your other household pets, microchip activated feeders are a great option to ensure your kitten is getting their meal on time. You can relax knowing your kitten won't be waiting at home hungry.



**SureFeed**  
Sealed Pet Bowl



**SureFeed**  
Microchip Pet  
Feeder Bowl



**All Day**  
Electronic Flutter  
Butterfly Cat Toy



**All Day**  
Electronic Wobble  
Cat Toy

## Interactive pet toys

Your kitten will never be lonely again with All Day interactive cat toys! These electronic pet toys are designed to keep your kitten active, while adding in fun and interaction into playtime.

## Microchip cat flaps

Keep your home secure with a cat door that only opens when it registers your pet's microchip number – no stray cats can sneak inside! You can link it to more than one pet and set up curfews and different programs based on the level of access you want to give your kitten.



# How to groom your kitten

**While cats are superb self-groomers, regular brushing by you will keep your kitten's coat extra shiny and healthy.**

## Starting slow

Regular grooming is important for maintaining your cat's health. Most cats love to be brushed, especially if this is a routine that's developed from an early age. Make sure your kitten feels comfortable being patted all over and is slowly introduced to their combs and brushes. Keep your first grooming sessions short – only five to 10 minutes – then gradually increase the time until your pet is used to the routine.

## Grooming basics

Grooming your kitten depends on their coat and whether they have long or shorter hair. For long-haired cats, we recommend brushing every day. Short-haired breeds need to be brushed at least once a week. Consistent brushing stops their hair from matting, removes loose fur and reduces the risk of irritating hair balls caused by excessive self-grooming. For the best results, use a comb first and work it from front to back within the line of fur. Loose fur can then be removed with a slicker brush or a rubber mitt.

## Can you give your kitten a bath?

Kittens can be bathed to improve their coat appearance and reduce unpleasant odour. Always brush away any dead fur before bathing. As cats can be nervous around water, we recommend using a warm, damp sponge or bathing wipes instead of a bath. Waterless shampoo can also be used once your kitten gets older. Only use mild shampoos specifically formulated for kittens to prevent skin irritation. Work it gently into the coat and rinse thoroughly before drying. It's best to start bathing within the first week of your kitten coming home.

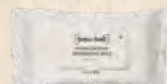
## Your kitten's nails

Your kitten's nails will need to be clipped regularly. To get them used to this, get into the habit of playing with their paws and claws while they're young. It's important to ensure your kitten is comfortable with this before you start clipping their nails to avoid resistance and to give them positive associations with this necessary grooming process.

## We recommend



**Bow & Bell**  
Slicker Brush



**Bow & Bell**  
Cat Wipes



**Bow & Bell**  
Botanicals Restore & Calm  
Cat Waterless Shampoo

## Vet advice:

Brush your cat regularly to help reduce knotted fur and hairballs.





# [bow+bell]



## GROOMING RANGE

100% AUSTRALIAN MADE, PARABEN & SULFATE-FREE  
FEATURING AUSTRALIAN ESSENTIAL OILS



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# Getting your *kitten* looking *pawsitively* *purrfect*!



Regular grooming creates bonding time between you and your kitten while simultaneously promoting healthy coat growth and skin. Let Wahl's new range of Cat Grooming Tools assist you in keeping your kittens coat in purrfect condition.

Start grooming your cat while they are still a kitten. Cats, like dogs require regular grooming and will be more accepting of grooming and bathing when introduced to grooming while they are young.

## Bathing time is *fun* time!

- This Four In One formula makes bath time easy for you and your kitten, and leaves the fur clean, silky, and smooth. The Four In One Shampoo is formulated with lavender and chamomile to clean, condition, detangle, and moisturise your cat.
- If your kitten doesn't like water, our Oatmeal No Rinse Waterless Shampoo is the purrfect alternative. Formulated with Coconut, Lime and Verbena to moisturise dry skin and give itch relief.



## Spend some *quality* time with your kitten

### Cat De-Shedding Glove

- Grooming your kitten has never been easier with our De-shedding Glove! Simultaneously petting your kitten whilst getting rid of loose hair, dirt, debris and tangles: all with one smooth motion.

### Cat Nylon Slicker

- Soft, cushioned pins provide a soothing and comforting massage when brushing.
- Nylon Slickers help by removing loose hair, dead skin, dirt, mats, debris, or knots in the coat.

### Cat Nail Clipper

- Most indoor cats will have overgrown nails which can lead to discomfort as well as catching on things and leading to injury. Introducing a nail clipping routine at a young age is a good way to avoid such injuries and/or infections.
- Check nails to locate the interior blood vessel ("quick"). On light-coloured nails, the "quick" is easily seen inside the broad base of the nail. On dark nails, it can be seen on the nail's underside. Be very careful to avoid trimming into the "quick".





## Petbarn Foundation highlights since 2012

**The Petbarn Foundation is dedicated to making the world a better place for pets and the people who love and care for them.**

- 🐾 \$11M to support pet adoption and animal rescues
- 🐾 \$61.69M to Vision Australia to fund 125 Seeing Eye Dogs for Australians who are blind or have low vision
- 🐾 \$2M to natural disasters including flood and bushfire relief to provide veterinary care and pet supplies
- 🐾 66,000\* shelter animals rehomed through Petbarn in-store Adoption Centres

\*Figures correct as of December 2022



RSPCA QLD & Petbarn Team at Community Outreach day

**To learn more about the Petbarn Foundation**



Scan here or go to  
[petbarn.com.au/foundation](https://petbarn.com.au/foundation)

**The Petbarn Foundation supports hundreds of charities who support thousands of people and pets every year**

### Meet Chippie

Chippie is a Petbarn Foundation sponsored Empower Assistance Therapy Dog, who has been placed to help encourage positive conversations and to provide emotional support for tradies, truckies and other blue collar workers in the work force.



### Meet Cali

Cali arrived at Sweet Pea Animal Rescue, as an anxious girl. She had not previously made many doggie friends, but by giving her routine and a rewards-based training program with experienced trainers the team at Sweet Pea helped her overcome her fear and reactivity, helping her evolve into a sweet and loving dog.

After two years of patience and positivity Cali found the perfect home with two wonderful humans who love her to bits. Cali is now flourishing in her amazing forever home.



# Common kitten questions

**Bringing a kitten into your home is a big step and you'll be faced with the odd challenge. Here are some kitten related frequently asked questions.**

## Why do cats sleep so much?

Cats seem to spend their entire days sleeping, most likely after pouncing on your chest at the crack of dawn. The average cat naps for 15 hours a day, with kittens and older cats sleeping even longer. So why does your pet keep such strange hours? Cats may not spend a lot of time awake, yet when they do, they use lots of energy. Whether they're stalking, chasing string or using their scratcher, your cat exerts a lot of energy in short bursts. This means they need recovery time.

## Why do cats bring you things?

Domesticated cats have retained their wild hunting instincts and it's impossible to take them away. When your cat has a successful hunt and presents it to you, they are demonstrating their natural survival instinct to hunt. The best way to curb this behaviour is to stimulate their natural hunting habits. By giving them plenty of toys and indoor play activities, such as balls, wands, automatic interactive toys and plenty of opportunities for climbing and scratching, you'll be keeping them entertained, making them less likely to turn their attention elsewhere.

## Are cats nocturnal?

A lot of people believe that cats are nocturnal, or active during the night and asleep during the day. This is not strictly true. In fact, the majority of domestic cats are most active at both dusk and dawn rather than only at night. Because of this, cats laze around during the day, particularly when the sun is at its hottest, and are most active in the early morning and in the early evening hours of twilight. Whereas big cats in the wild, from which our domestic feline companions descend (lions, tigers etc.), are typically nocturnal hunters. So, if your cat is displaying nocturnal characteristics, it means they're channelling their inner lion!





## Why do cats hate water?

For an animal so adamant on being clean, it's a wonder that most cats don't like water. While many cats explore their water bowls with their paws, and become curiously bewitched around dripping faucets and showers, most don't appreciate being wholly drenched in water. While there are a few reasons for this, the main one comes down to their body temperature – once wet, they find it hard to feel warm again. If you expose your cat to water from a young age, they are more likely to accept bath time. It also helps if you praise your cat at every opportunity and give them treats for getting involved.

## How long do cats live?

Contrary to the popular saying, cats don't have nine lives. Their lives are getting longer though. Thanks to medical advances, early veterinary attention and more time spent indoors, it's not uncommon for cats to live beyond 12 to 15 years of age. Greencross Vets has had feline patients as old as 21 years of age. As a general rule, female cats outlive males and a cat that lives indoors generally outlives an outdoor cat. By taking good care of your pet's health, you can increase their chances of living to a ripe old age. Providing your cat with a complete and balanced diet is important for maintaining a healthy weight and delivering the nutrients

they need. You can help ward off preventable illnesses with regular trips to your local Greencross Vets for all your pet's vaccinations, boosters and general check-ups.



### Vet advice:

Cats need to be kept inside at night time to avoid them hunting and fighting.

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<sup>^</sup>Free for orders \$49 and over or \$6.95 delivery fee in Metro areas only.  
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At Petbarn, we believe your dog and cat will love their food so much that if they don't... we'll help you find a replacement. That's our taste guarantee.

#### What you need to do:

1

Bring your remaining food back to one of our stores

2

Talk to one of our team members about your pet's feeding experience

3

We'll help find a replacement food for your pet

Learn more at [petbarn.com.au/taste-guarantee](https://petbarn.com.au/taste-guarantee)



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### Our Price Match Guarantee

We're here to help you care for your pet, but we know that price is important, too. That's why we'll consistently provide the highest quality customer service and best value every day. Plus, if you find a lower price on an identical product that's in stock, we'll match it. That's our Price Match Promise to you.

#### What you need to do:

1

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Show the lower price to a team member at your local Petbarn store or contact our Customer Service team via **LiveChat at Petbarn.com.au**, on **1300 655 896** or at **info@petbarn.com.au**

2

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Vets



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Greencross Vets clinic & present this voucher



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## 20% off All Day Kitten Collars, Harness & Lead Sets

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Nothing's made like Nosh – Human-grade food for pets

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## PETBARN

### 40% off Freshco Cat Litter



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## Frequent Feeder

**Just like your loyal furry best friend – at Petbarn, we look after our loyal pals.**

With our Frequent Feeder Program, you can save up to 25% on your next pet food purchase in-store when you repurchase within two months.\*

Not a member?



Join FFL to access rewards



Simply join Friends for Life in-store or at [petbarn.com.au/loyalty-program](https://petbarn.com.au/loyalty-program)



Look out for our Frequent Feeder pricing in-store



Your discount will be applied instantly on your purchase\*

### Participating brands include:

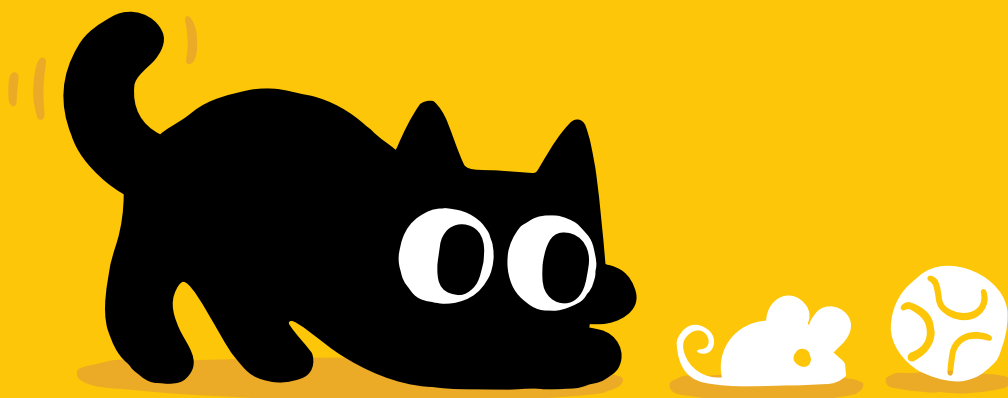


**And many more!**

\*Receive Frequent Feeder discount instantly on your first food purchase. Valid for new Friends for Life members only. For full terms and conditions see [www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions](https://www.petbarn.com.au/terms-and-conditions)

# Over \$130 worth of savings!\*

Use the vouchers on the following pages for  
huge savings on kitten essentials in-store!



\*\$130 worth of savings is calculated based on the combined maximum saving when purchasing a single product with each retail voucher. Value is correct at time of printing.