



Key City
Veterinary Clinic

New Kitten Care

Congratulations on the new addition to your family! We are proud to provide a kitten care guide designed to provide educational content that sets you and your new best friend up for success, both in the home and at our hospital. Our services focus on prevention as we believe it's the greatest gift we can give our feline family members.





KEY CITY VETERINARY CLINIC

318 E. South 11th St.,
Abilene, TX 79602

Phone: (325) 672-7801
keycityvet.com
www.facebook.com/keycityvet
Insagram: @keycityvet

*Quality Veterinary Care in a
Fun Friendly Atmosphere!*

CONVENIENT HOURS

Monday: 7:30am – 5:30pm
Tuesday: 7:30am – 5:30pm
Wednesday: 7:30am – 5:30pm
Thursday: 7:30am – 5:30pm
Friday: 7:30am – 5:30pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed

*For your Convenience we Accept: Cash, Checks,
Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.*

ASK ABOUT CARE CREDIT & SCRATCH PAY!



*Our dedicated team is here not just to treat
your pet when they're unwell, but also to
empower you with the knowledge and
resources needed to keep your furry friend
happy and thriving for many years to come.*

*We provide quality care
for dogs and cats.*

**GO TO OUR
WEBSITE WITH
JUST ONE
CLICK!**



WE OFFER MANY VALUABLE SERVICES FOR YOUR PET:

- Wellness Exams & Vaccinations
- Microchipping
- Surgery
- Dental Care
- Boarding
- Dermatology
- Ultrasounds
- Diagnostics
- Health Certifications

Check out our website for a more detailed
description of available services at

www.keycityvet.com





















Kitten Service Breakdown

FIRST VISIT: TYPICALLY, BETWEEN 6 & 8 WEEKS OR UPON ACQUISITION.

SECOND VISIT: THREE WEEKS AFTER THE FIRST VISIT. IDEALLY BETWEEN 9 & 11 WEEKS.

THIRD VISIT: THREE WEEKS AFTER SECOND VISIT. IDEALLY BETWEEN 15 & 17 WEEKS.

Vaccine/Service Completed	First Visit	Second Visit	Third Visit	Annual
FVRCP				
Rabies				
FelV				
FelV/FIV Test				
Intestinal Parasite Screen				
Deworming				
Flea & Tick Prevention				



KITTEN SERVICE BREAKDOWN

PHYSICAL EXAM

This comprehensive examination allows the doctor to evaluate your kitten's temperament, heart, ears, eyes, lungs, abdomen, nose, throat, teeth, lymph nodes, bones, and skin. Please take this opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have regarding your pet's care.

RABIES

The Rabies vaccination protects kittens and cats from contracting Rabies; a deadly viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including cats and humans. Symptoms of Rabies include brain inflammation, behavioral changes, paralysis, and fatality. Vaccination against rabies is legally required as it is zoonotic, meaning contagious to people.

FVRCP

The three-in-one combination vaccine known as FVRCP immunizes kittens against feline rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia, three highly contagious and life-threatening illnesses in cats.

RHINOTRACHEITIS:

This disease is triggered by the feline herpes virus and if left untreated, causes starvation, dehydration, and eventually death.

PANLEUKOPENIA:

Also known as feline distemper or parvovirus. It develops extremely fast and can kill a cat within 12 hours upon contraction without immediate medical intervention.

CALICIVIRUS:

Kittens and senior cats are particularly susceptible to this disease of the respiratory system which can also cause mouth ulcers and develop into pneumonia if left untreated.

FELV

The (FeLV) vaccine protects against the Feline Leukemia Virus. Feline Leukemia poses a significant risk to kittens, compromising their immune systems and potentially leading to various health complications. Cats with FeLV may show a range of symptoms, including weight loss, lethargy, poor coat condition, and recurrent illnesses. Kittens can contract FeLV through direct contact with infected cats (including their mother at birth), primarily through mutual grooming, sharing food and water bowls, or exposure to contaminated bodily fluids.

VACCINATION REACTIONS

After vaccination it is common to have the following symptoms. These signs are common and usually resolve within 24 hours.

- Mild Lethargy
- Reduced Appetite
- Soreness/Swelling at the injection site.

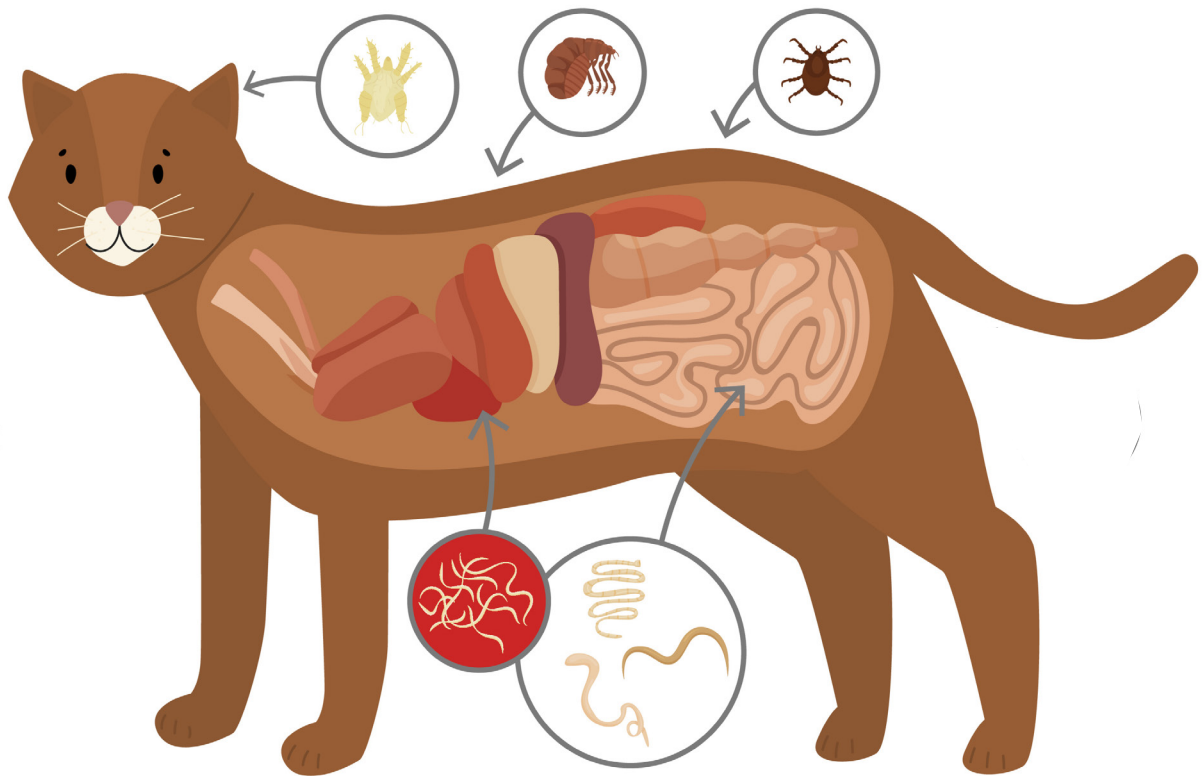
Please contact us if any of the reactions below occur:

- Generalized Weakness
- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Hives
- Facial Swelling

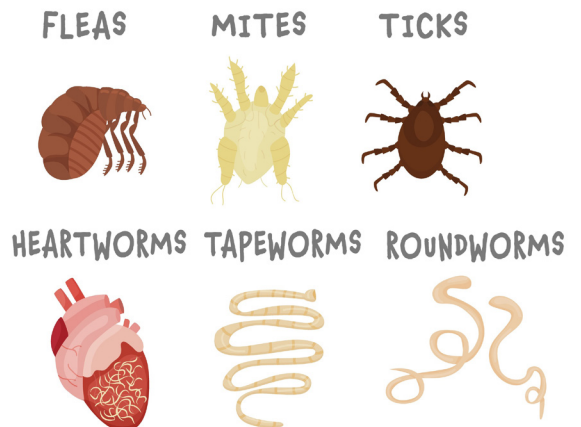


PARASITES AT A GLANCE

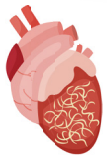
Parasites can cause a variety of health problems for your pet and may even result in death. One of the biggest concerns is the potential for them to spread to humans. The illustration lists common parasites found in cats & dogs, signs, and complications of infestations, and whether or not they can spread to humans – known as zoonotic parasites.



Veterinarians divide parasites into two main categories – external (ectoparasites) and internal (endoparasites). Endoparasites, like heartworm, are typically harder to detect but typically cause more severe disease.



Parasites Breakdown



HEARTWORM

Symptoms

Intermittent vomiting (sometimes of blood as well as of food); diarrhea; rapid and difficult breathing, coughing and gagging, loss of appetite, lethargy, weight loss & acute sudden death.



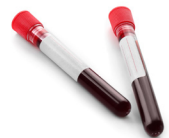
Transmission

Through the bite of an infected mosquito.



Detection

Blood test.






Prevention

Applying topical medication.

Treatment

There is no treatment for heartworm in cats at this time.

Parasites Breakdown

	FLEAS	TICKS	MITES (MOST COMMONLY EAR MITES)
Symptoms	 <p>Mild to severe itching, scratching, biting, and chewing. Flea saliva hypersensitivity or allergy and resulting skin problems.</p>	 <p>Mild local irritation, lameness, swollen lymph nodes, stiffness & pain, lethargy, weakness, fever, anemia.</p>	 <p>Itching, hair loss, dandruff or crusty lesions, and bleeding or oozing skin.</p>
Transmission	Through direct contact with infested animals or environments.	Transfer onto hosts when they are walking through long grass, bushes and brush.	Direct contact with infested animals or environments
Detection	Examination of the animal for adult fleas, flea dirt, or small black specks of dried flea feces. A blood test can detect a flea allergy.	Examination of the animal.	Examination of the animal and skin scrapings.
Prevention	Oral medications, such as chewable tablets, work systemically to kill fleas when ingested, while topical treatments, applied to the skin, provide localized protection by killing fleas on contact.	Topical treatments, collars, and oral medications designed to repel and kill ticks, combined with regular grooming and environmental management to reduce tick habitats.	Regular grooming, maintaining a clean living environment, and using veterinary- recommended preventive treatments such as spot-on solutions or medicated shampoos.
Treatment	Using flea control products such as shampoos, topical treatments, or oral medications to eliminate fleas. Followed by preventive measures to avoid reinfestation.	Carefully removing the ticks using tweezers, ensuring to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, followed by disinfecting the bite area and, if necessary, administering medication to prevent tick-borne diseases.	Using medicated shampoos, spot-on treatments, or oral medications prescribed by a veterinarian to eliminate the parasites and alleviate any discomfort, often accompanied by thorough cleaning of the cat's living environment to prevent reinfestation.



NUTRITION

To live a long, healthy and happy life, your cat needs proper nutrition.

DOS

- 🐾 Provide a balanced diet tailored to cats' nutritional needs, rich in protein, healthy fats, vitamins, and minerals.
- 🐾 Always ensure access to fresh, clean water.
- 🐾 Incorporate wet food to maintain hydration levels and provide additional moisture in their diet.
- 🐾 Monitor portion sizes according to age, weight, and activity level to prevent obesity.
- 🐾 Gradually introduce new foods to avoid digestive issues and food sensitivities.
- 🐾 Regularly consult with a veterinarian to assess nutritional needs and make necessary adjustments.
- 🐾 Look for AAFCO on the nutritional label, certifying that it meets higher standards than what is required by law.

DON'TS

- 🐾 Avoid feeding cats dog food or human food, as it may lack essential nutrients and can be harmful.
- 🐾 Refrain from overfeeding or free feeding to prevent obesity and associated health problems.
- 🐾 Limit treats to prevent weight gain and nutrient imbalances.
- 🐾 Avoid relying solely on vegetarian or homemade diets without veterinary guidance to ensure all nutritional needs are met.
- 🐾 Steer clear of sudden dietary changes to prevent digestive upset or food aversion.
- 🐾 Do not offer foods toxic to cats, such as chocolate, onions, garlic, grapes, raisins, and certain plants.
- 🐾 Refrain from feeding raw meat or eggs due to potential bacterial contamination risks for both cats and humans.

**Cat Food Brands
We Recommend!**





SETTING YOUR CAT UP FOR SUCCESS

How to Brush Your Cat's Teeth

We recommend brushing your cat's teeth daily, starting slowly with the steps below and moving to the next step only after the cat is comfortable with the current step. Toothpaste must be made for dog/cats as it does not contain fluoride or xylitol which are highly toxic.



VOHC

Look for the VOHC seal of approval when purchasing products for your furry best friend!

VOHC (Veterinary Oral Health Council) products for cats are specifically formulated to promote good oral hygiene and prevent dental issues in our furry companions. These products, ranging from dental chews to water additives, undergo rigorous testing and evaluation by veterinary dental experts to ensure their efficacy in reducing plaque and tartar buildup, combating bad breath, and maintaining overall dental health.



BRUSHING IN 4 EASY STEPS



Step 1
Handle cat's mouth by lifting lips, touching gums and teeth with your finger



Step 2
Introduce soft toothbrush, concentrating on canines and upper molars (you do not need to brush inside of teeth)



Step 3
Introduce toothpaste, by placing a small amount on your finger and then the gums



Step 4
Brush teeth with toothpaste on toothbrush



SETTING YOUR CAT UP FOR SUCCESS

How to Welcome a New Cat

We recommend these following tips to help your kitten feel comfortable in their new home!



Dedicate one room that's easily closed off. At first, let your kitty explore only that, so it's not overwhelmed. Set the room before your cat arrives, so you don't create additional noises and stress when you both get home.



Make the process less stressful by bringing familiar items from the cat's previous home. The familiar smells will make the transition smoother.



Let your cat observe - cats learn a lot through observation. This means that even if you just sit and talk to your new kitty, this will help it acclimate.



When you are around the cat, move slowly and predictably. Any sudden movements or loud noises can send it into hiding. Use a steady, calm voice.



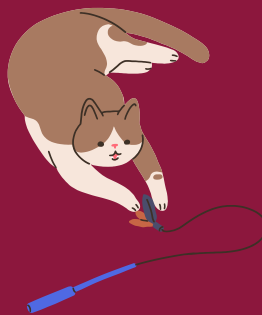
Show your cat the litter box and make it easily accessible. If you have a kitten, let it sniff the box for a bit and then place it inside.



Offer the same type of food that your cat has been eating previously. This will give it a sense of familiarity. Set a water dish and make sure the food and water are away from the litter box.



Provide a scratching post. Scratching helps cats mark their territory and release build-up energy, so it can help make a cat's adjustment easier.



Don't force a friendship but encourage interactions. Engage in play. Wand toys and laser pointers are a great way to bond while maintaining a distance.



Use positive reinforcement to build trust. This means giving a reward to increase the likelihood of good behavior happening again. Rewards include delicious treats, catnip, and play.



Once your new cat is eating, drinking, and using its litter box normally, it may be time to take it out of the safe zone and introduce it to the rest of your home. You will know it's ready when it looks curious about what's going on the other side of the door.



CAT TRAVEL CARRIER

1: ACCLIMATE YOUR KITTEN TO THEIR PET CARRIER PRIOR TO ANY TRAVEL.

- Leave carrier out in living space
- Let kitten sniff and explore
- Use treats or high value meals to encourage the kitten to enter & get used to the carrier

2: MAKE THE CARRIER COMFORTABLE

- Place towels or blankets in the carrier.
- Understand that some cats get sick when traveling, so use towels/blankets that can easily be washed or replaced.

3. REDUCE FOOD CONSUMPTION PRIOR TO TRAVEL.

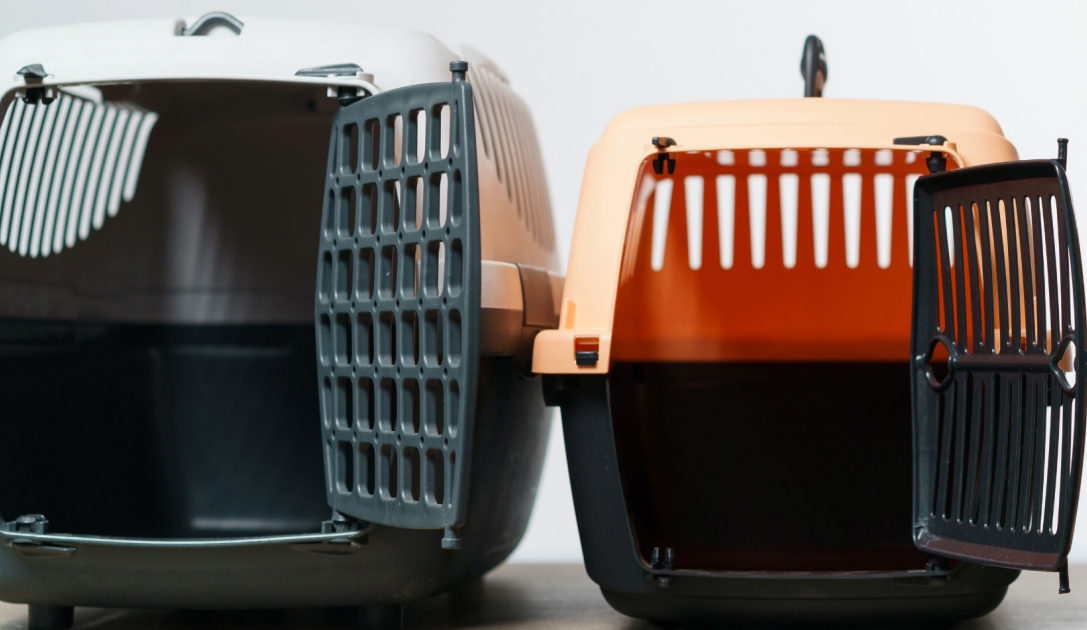
- Help reduce the chances of an upset tummy / getting sick by reducing food at least an hour before travel.

4. DON'T RUSH IT.

- If you need to leave at 1:30pm, start preparing and loading your kitten/cat into the carrier at 1:00pm. This will help you and the kitten remain calm.

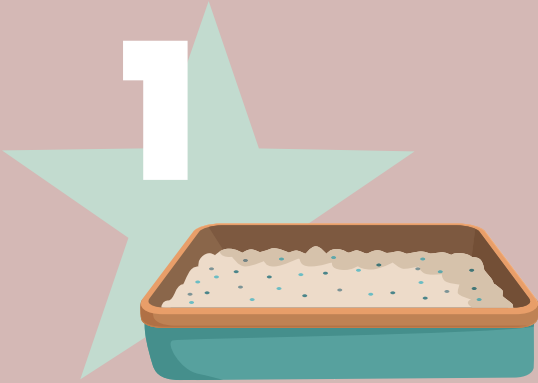
5. DO PRACTICE RUNS.

- If the only time your kitten/cat is in a carrier is to go to the vet, chances are they are not going to appreciate the carrier long term.
- Start with short drives and then increase travel duration. Reward your kitten when you get back home with lots of cuddles, treats, and/or play.



Litter Box Training

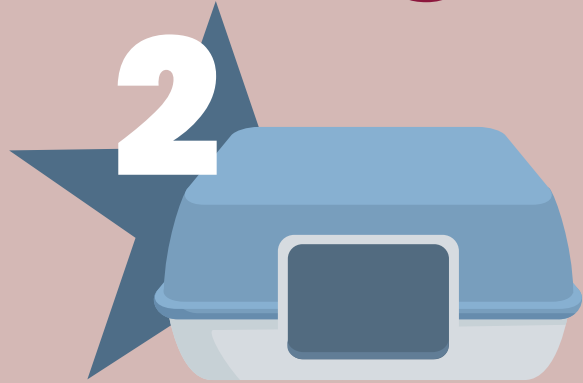
1



SETUP KITTEN & LITTERBOX IN SMALL SPACE

Ensuring that the kitten is always within a close distance to the litterbox is the first step in reducing accidents and litter training a kitten. We recommend a bedroom, bathroom, or laundry room.

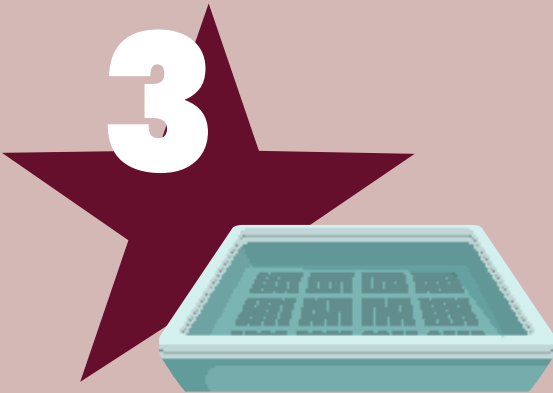
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ACCUSTOM YOUR KITTEN WITH THEIR LITTER BOX

As soon as you bring your kitten home, place him or her inside the litter box to explore it and sniff around, giving plenty of time to get used to it and paw the litter.

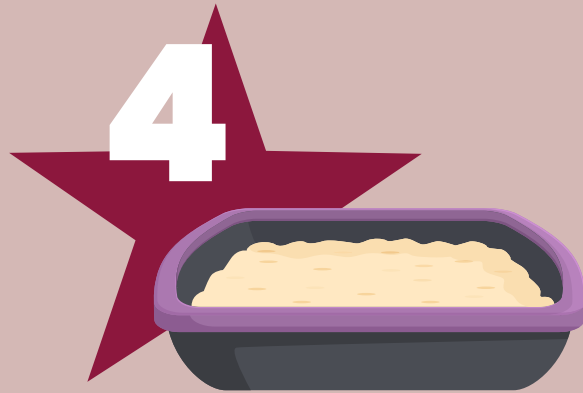
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BRING THE KITTEN TO THE LITTER BOX FREQUENTLY

The most likely times a kitten will need "to go" is after every meal or when they wake up from naps, so pick up your kitten at these times and place it in the litter box.

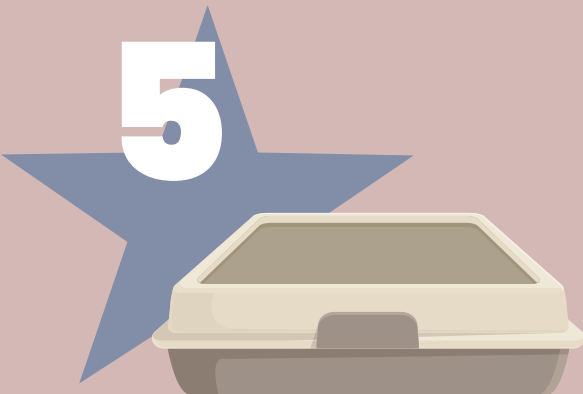
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KEEP THE LITTER BOX CLEAN!

Cats are clean animals and by not keeping the litter box clean you will make your kitten stop using it and encourage poop accidents in other places of your house. Scoop at least once per day!

5



UNDERSTAND THAT ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN

Never punish your kitten for going outside the litter box. Assess what the kitten may need that she or he isn't getting. Is the litter box clean? Can the kitten easily access it? Is the kitten able to make it back to the litter box when their body feels it has to go?



ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT



VERTICAL SPACE

Cats like to be up high. Providing access to elevated places makes cats happy and increases the overall space available to them. Provide your cat with a carpeted tree or condo, preferably with hiding spots, cat perches and shelves.

SCRATCHING MATERIALS

Provide acceptable scratching materials for your cat, such as a carpeted post or cardboard plank. To train your cat to use these items, reward with treats and praise each time he/she scratches appropriately. You can also place catnip, treats and toys on or near the post to encourage this behavior.

MAKE FEEDING MORE NATURAL

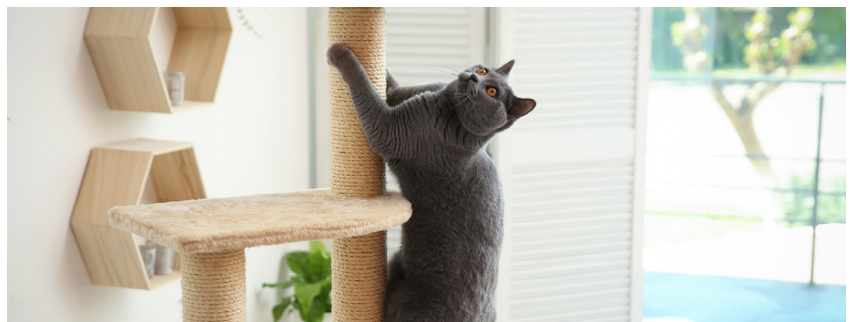
Hide food in different places around the house so your cat can “hunt” for his/her food. Place the food in corners, on shelves or behind furniture. If possible, divide meals into three or four small servings and alternate hiding them, or you can try placing a treat in a new area each day.

CRITTER WATCHING

Create a comfortable place by the window for endless entertainment. Additionally, you can do an online search for “bird TV for cats” for cat-friendly videos to display on a screen for them.

SUPPLY PLENTY OF TOYS

Kittens tend to be very curious and playful. To help direct some of that energy, provide a variety of toys such as feather wands for interactive play, catnip infused/stuffed toys, tunnels, slotted balls with bells inside, and so much more.





SPAY & NEUTER

We recommended spaying and neutering kittens between five and six months of age, preferably around five months. Kittens can have their first heat cycle as early as four months old. However, our recommendation may change depending on each individual kitten's medical history, current medical needs, and size.

WHY SPAY & NEUTER?

REDUCE PET OVERPOPULATION.

According to the ASPCA, over 530,000 cats are euthanized every year in the United States.

REDUCE SPRAYING.

Neutering changes the odor of the urine and may reduce the cat's motivation for spraying.

REDUCE AGGRESSION / FIGHTING WITH OTHER ANIMALS.

Because of their impulse to be territorial it's often impossible to resolve aggression among cats if one or more cats is intact.

REDUCE RISK OF CERTAIN HEALTH CONCERNS.

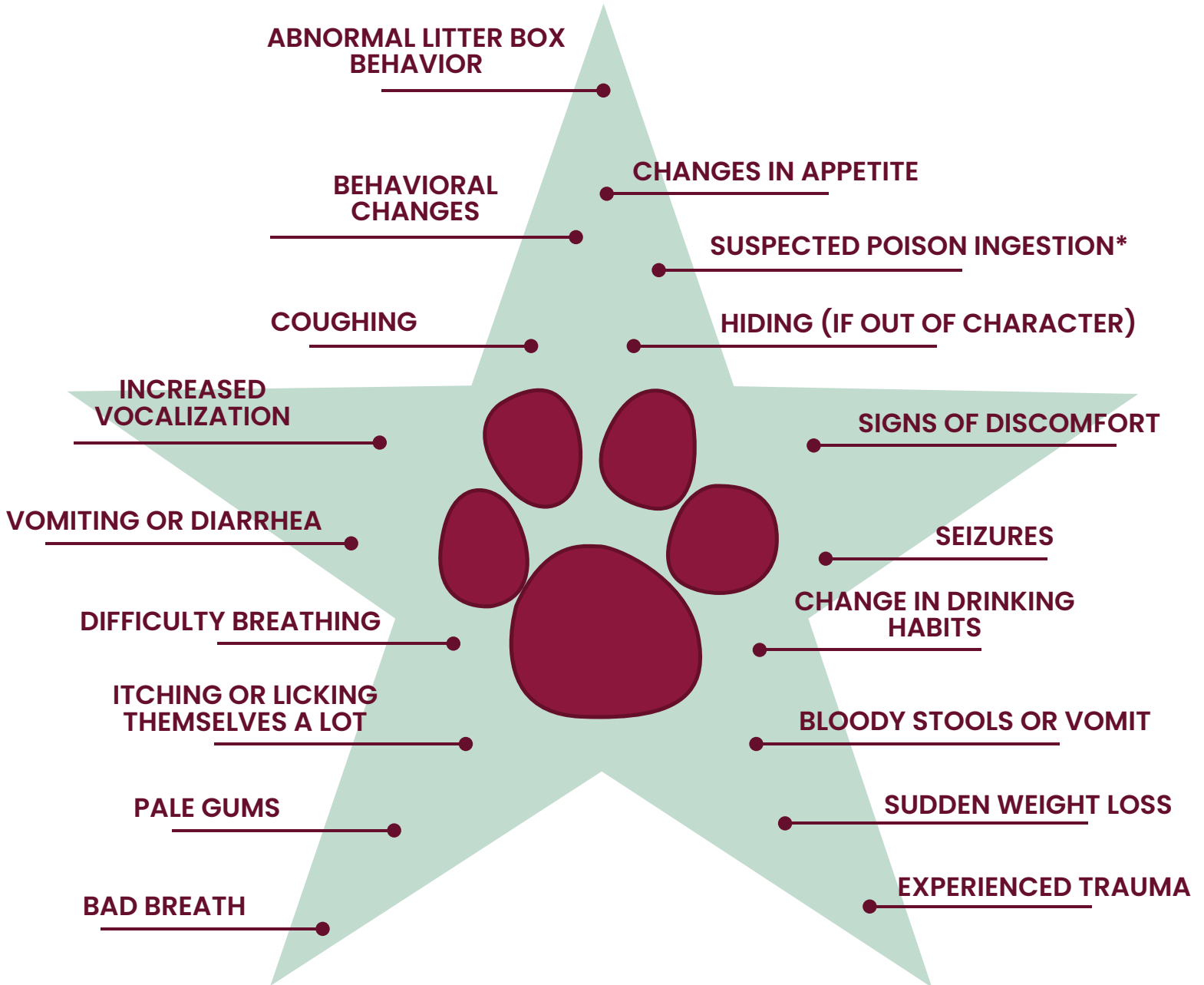
In males, neutering decreases the chances of developing prostatic disease and hernias and eliminates the chances of developing testicular cancer.

In Females, spaying decreases the incidence of breast cancer and pyometra, a serious and potentially fatal infection of the uterus.





SIGNS YOUR CAT NEEDS TO SEE A VET



Cats are prey animals and champions at hiding pain and discomfort. If your pet is experiencing any of the following symptoms, we recommend scheduling an appointment with your veterinarian.

*If you suspect your pet has ingested something poisonous, please bring in what you suspect they ingested if possible.



PET RESOURCES

PET INSURANCE

If you are interested in purchasing pet insurance for your kitten, we recommend finding the policy that best fits your needs by utilizing pet insurance comparison resources:



<https://www.pawlicy.com/>



<https://www.nerdwallet.com/l/pet-insurance>



<https://findinsurance.com/pet-insurance>

POISON CONTROL HOTLINE

If you suspect your pet has ingested something poisonous and you are unable to reach our team, call the ASPCA 24/7 Poison Control Hotline at 888-426-4435, \$95. Or Pet Poison Helpline at 855-764-7661, \$85.

LOCAL EMERGENCY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

If you have an emergency after-hours, please contact:

The Emergency Veterinary Clinic in Abilene

909 Industrial Blvd. Abilene, Texas 79602

325-691-1504

HOSPITAL PHARMACY

Did you know that medications, foods, and additional items sold through other online sites may be counterfeit, expired, or have not been labeled, stored, or shipped correctly? This can and has led to consequences for pets, such as:

- Toxic products that may result in illness or even death
- Medications that are ineffective in treatment
- Catching preventable diseases

Our online pharmacy...

- Is FDA regulated
- Meets the Highest Industry Security Standards
- Is Manufacturer Guaranteed
- Integrates with your Pet's Hospital Records
- Offers Home Delivery
- Competitively Priced



CAN YOU SPOT THE FAKE ONE?

The way to identify for the top photo is the blurriness of the cat. For the back side, look out for the expiration date.



Expiration date is listed! ✓

Crisp photo! ✓



Scan the QR code to visit our Online Pharmacy

***“What greater gift
than the love of a cat.”
– Charles Dickens***

