



Pet Savers Cat Adoption Instructions

Owning a pet is a commitment and a serious responsibility. Companion animals rely on us when they are hungry, thirsty, hot, cold, sick or frightened. They are unable to care for themselves in this way.

FOOD & WATER

Most cats do fine on dry cat food. Some cats like to free-feed/nibble all day while others prefer 2 smaller meals per day. Your cat has been free-fed during his/her stay at pet Savers. Your veterinarian will best be able to determine your pet's dietary needs. Feeding table scraps is NOT recommended. These rich tidbits may cause digestive upset such as gas, loose stools or diarrhea and even vomiting. In the case of leftover bones, they actually pose a choking hazard as they can easily become lodged in your pet's esophagus or further down the intestine.

SHELTER & BEDDING

Your cat needs a warm, dry place in the winter and a cool, shady, dry place to rest and sleep in the summer.

WORMS, FLEAS & DISEASE

Cats can also get heartworms after being bitten by an infected mosquito, although they are not as susceptible to infection as dogs. A cat is considered a resistant host of heartworms because the worms do not thrive as well inside a cat's body. Both indoor and outdoor cats are at risk for heartworm disease. Monthly preventatives for fleas, ticks and intestinal worms are available from your family veterinarian. Pet Savers does not recommend over-the-counter medications.

ELIMINATION

Typically, cats are easily litter trained. But, house soiling is the most common behavior problem reported by cat owners. It includes urination and/or defecation outside the litter box, as well as urine spraying. In the beginning, accidents may happen because of the change of environment. If inappropriate soiling persists, a medical condition must first be ruled out. After you have taken this first step, please contact Jennifer Smith to discuss strategies on how to work to alleviate this problem.

UPON ARRIVAL AT HOME (Source: Humane Society of the United States)

After the ride home, he will, most likely, not be in the mood for fun. To make his transition to your household as comfortable as possible, select a quiet, closed-in area, such as your bedroom or a small room away from the main foot traffic, and provide him with a litter box, food and water, toys, and a scratching post.

Let your new pet become acquainted with that limited area for the first few days. Be sure to spend plenty of time with him in that room, but if he's hiding under the bed, don't force him to come out. If necessary, sit on the floor to talk to him and offer treats. Let him sniff all your belongings and investigate all the hiding places.

Your new cat may be full of self-confidence and itching to get out and make himself at home. Or he may be more of a shrinking violet who needs more time to adjust.

THE FIRST WEEK (Source: Humane Society of the United States)

Over a few days, slowly introduce him to the rest of your house, including the other pets and household members. Make sure he always has access to "his" room so he can retreat to it if he feels nervous. It will take a little while, but he'll eventually start to feel comfortable at home.

Cats vary in terms of how demanding they are as pets, so let yours guide you to the level of attention he wants, whether it's your hand for petting, or your lap for sitting. Provide him with the necessary creature comforts, and give him the companionship he seeks, and he'll be content.

Questions?

Linda Shemwell (318) 861-2020 or email shemwell@comcast.net

www.petsaversshreveport.org



Pet Savers Cat Adoption Contract

Pet's Name: _____

I agree to the following:

1. My cat is to live in a private residence as a companion animal.
2. I will provide the cat with sufficient quantities of nutritious food and fresh water each day.
3. Never to strike or otherwise harm the cat.
4. Never to have the cat declawed.
5. Spaying or neutering is required by five months of age. If cat is not spayed or neutered prior to adoption, proof of surgery must be mailed to Pet Savers within 30 days of the procedure. If I have adopted a kitten that is not spayed/neutered, I have received my \$50 spay/neuter voucher. I understand that if I do not spay/neuter I will need to relinquish my cat and adoption fee to Pet Savers.
6. To ensure that the cat's vaccinations for rabies and distemper are current and to provide veterinary care upon sickness, disease or injury.
7. If the cat must be surrendered for any reason, I promise NOT turn the cat over to a municipal shelter, give it away or sell it. I will return the pet to Pet Savers if I am unable to care for it properly.
8. Pet Savers is not responsible if the cat acts in an aggressive manner or becomes ill in the future.
9. I understand that failure to perform the foregoing agreement will constitute a breach of contract. In the event of any such breach of contract, I authorize the Pet Savers to reclaim possession of the adopted cat.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

DL#: _____

I heard about Pet Savers via _____

Staff Member: _____ Adoption Fee: _____

Additional Donation: _____ Voucher: YES NO