

BEST CARE PET HOSPITAL

PREVENTATIVE KITTEN CARE

Congratulations! You are the owner of a new kitten! We, the doctors and staff at Best Care Pet Hospital, would like to help ensure the health and happiness of your new friend. Following is a list of recommended preventative care for your new pet.

VACCINATIONS:

1st Visit ____/____/____

Temporary upper respiratory combination (FVRCP), feline leukemia/fiv combination test, wellness exam, worming.

2nd Visit ____/____/____

Temporary upper respiratory combination (FVRCP), temporary feline leukemia (FeLV), fecal (bring in a stool sample).

3rd Visit ____/____/____

Upper respiratory combination, (FVRCP), feline leukemia (FeLV), and rabies.

***Vaccinations need to be updated once a year. We will send you a reminder when they are due. We ask, therefore, that you please inform us of any address changes.

***Please call to schedule appointments so that we may serve you better.

DECLAWING:

Your kitten may be declawed as early as 12 weeks of age. Surgeries are scheduled Monday-Friday. Your pet will be admitted to the hospital in the morning and will remain hospitalized with us for two nights. Please call to see at what time your pet may go home. You may choose to have the front feet declawed or all four feet. The pet's feet will be wrapped with pressure bandages which will be removed the morning following surgery. You are welcome to visit your pet while hospitalized with us.

SPAYING/NEUTERING:

Kittens may be spayed or neutered starting at 3-6 months of age. We strongly recommend spaying/neutering to help curtail some behavior and health problems. Surgeries are scheduled

Monday-Friday. Your pet will be admitted to the hospital in the morning and will be allowed to return home the same day. We use iso-flurane gas anesthesia which is very safe and allows your pet to return home the same day as surgery. All sutures are placed under the skin and do not need to be removed. Kittens may be declawed at the same time as a spay or neuter.

PRE-ANESTHETIC SCREENING:

Medical advancements have greatly reduced the risks involved with anesthesia. We at Best Care Pet Hospital use iso-flurane gas anesthesia, the safest anesthesia available today. Anesthetic risk may be reduced even further, however, through pre-anesthetic screening. The screen consists of a simple blood test which is run here in our hospital prior to an anesthetic procedure. The test indicates whether or not the internal organs are functioning properly. Especially of interest are the liver and kidneys, as the anesthesia is processed primarily through these organs. The screening may indicate hidden health problems which the Doctor would be unable to find on a physical examination. When you bring your pet in for an anesthetic procedure you will be asked to complete a surgical consent form which will offer you the choice of pre-anesthetic screening. Please discuss any questions or concerns with the Veterinarian.

GROOMING:

All cats, short or long-haired will benefit from regular brushing. Short-haired cats require only weekly grooming whereas long-haired cats will require daily grooming. Good grooming habits will not only help with shedding, mats, and hairballs, but may also help you to notice fleas, lumps, bruises or other skin problems. If you have questions regarding proper grooming tools, ask one of our staff and they will be happy to direct you. Remember when grooming your cat to include trimming their toe nails. The veterinarian or a technician can show you how to safely perform this task.

MICROCHIP IMPLANTATION:

Best Care Pet Hospital offers microchip implantation for your pet. A microchip is injected under the skin of your pet and may be read by a scanner if your pet is ever lost or stolen.

FLEA CONTROL:

Flea control has never been easier than it is today. There are a wide variety of safe-to-use, easy, and effective treatments available. Veterinarians and staff can help suggest which treatment will work best for you. All pets admitted to the hospital with fleas will be treated and the owner charged accordingly.

TOP TWELVE KITTEN CARE TIPS: (adapted from "Kittens Magazine")

1. Have a veterinarian examine your kitten as soon as possible after bringing it home. The veterinarian will examine and suggest preventative health care measures for your new pet. If a

problem is found, some pets may be covered by a warranty, allowing you to return a pet that may have serious health concerns.

2. Find a veterinarian whom you trust and who will listen to you and your concerns.
3. Feed the kitten a nutritional diet that is appropriate for its age and lifestyle. Again, veterinarians and staff will be willing to help you decide upon a suitable diet.
4. Handle your kitten often and in a positive manner, pay special attention to feet, ears, mouth etc. so that it will be easier to trim nails, examine ears and mouth, and to groom. Good habits begun early make future care easier.
5. Keep kitten isolated in a small area of its new home until it adapts to the new environment. Provide a litter box, food and fresh water.
6. Prepare kitten's special area so that it is similar to what its expanded environment will be, making transition easier.
7. Play with your kitten, this promotes bonding between you and your new pet.
8. Gradually introduce your new pet to other members of the household. Take your lead from the kitten and do not push it to accept other pets or children immediately.
9. Kitten-proof your house before allowing your new pet unlimited access. Monitor the kitten's habits to see if any areas will become a particular concern.
10. Provide only kitten-safe toys for your kitten, i.e. no strings, sharp edges, etc., which could be harmful.
11. Protect kitten from common household dangers.
12. Avoid using ammonia when cleaning areas in the home, this mimics the smell of cat urine and may encourage the kitten to view that area as an appropriate place to urinate.