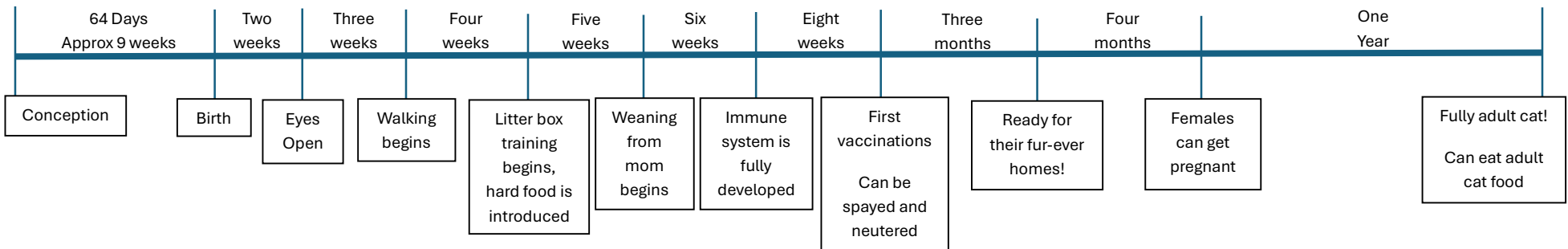


Kitten Care 101: The Dos and Don'ts!

Many have asked us, "How do I take care of little kittens? Are there any special things I need to do or avoid? Don't worry, we are here to help! If you find kittens in the wild, unless they are in immediate danger please leave them there!!! Mama is probably out hunting. If she hasn't come back in 8 – 12 hours, then kittens may have been abandoned.



Kitten Do's:

Newborn kittens are very fragile, please handle with care!

Give them a warm, soft place inside. Make sure they have clean drinking water accessible in a shallow bowl.

Get them to a vet as soon as possible! Cats and kittens act very tough and will do everything they can to hide an injury or illness. Even if they look healthy, a professional assessment is crucial.

Kittens should be given 3-4 small meals throughout the day.

Once kittens start to play, they need lots of safe space. Large dog crates or play pens work best but be sure they cannot climb out.

Work with the kittens regularly throughout the day to help them socialize and get used to being handled. Play with their paws, rub their ears, move their lips and make it fun!

When setting up a litter box, use the dust free varieties.

Get lots of toys! Scratching posts and toys help stimulate growth and healthy habits. Make sure they are designed specifically for kittens to keep them safe.

Kitten Don'ts:

Do not give them cow's milk, they cannot digest it. Instead use goats' milk or kitten formula.

Unless absolutely necessary, do not bathe young kittens. They cannot regulate their body temps, and a bath can leave them chilled and open to illnesses. If you do have to bathe, use only kitten safe products. Adult dog or cat shampoo can be toxic to small kittens.

Do not get your kitten declawed. Lots of vets no longer offer this procedure, and there are multiple reasons why.

Do not let your kitten eat adult cat chow, it does not have the required nutrients for healthy growth and development.

Do not ignore fleas and ticks. If you find pests on your kittens, get them help immediately! Don't wait, fleas can be fatal for small kitten bodies.

General Facts: Did you know?

Kitten litters can have more than one dad! Moms can mate multiple times during a heat cycle, so the colorful variety of kittens are normal.

All kittens are born with blue eyes, but their color will change around week four.

Female cats can go into heat and become pregnant as early as four months old. Spaying and neutering is the best thing you can do to help your kitties.

If you're thinking about adopting a kitten, you should think about getting two! Adopting two at once helps teach behaviors, correct play and provides a best friend and playmate for life.

A cat's whiskers are the same length as the width of their bodies! They help the cat to explore and know what spaces they can fit through.