



Cat Checklist- Welcome Your New Cat Into Your Home!



You and your family may be very excited when you are bringing your new cat or kitten home for the very first time.

However, your new cat may be very nervous or afraid because it is arriving at a strange place it has never been to before with people it does not know or trust yet.

Your new cat or kitten may be playful as soon as it comes home or it may not. It totally depends on your cat's individual personality.

Though cats tend to have a more difficult time adjusting to a new home and family than some other types of pets, this checklist can make the change a lot easier on your new cat or kitten.

Eventually, your cat will go up to you, smell you and rub against you. It may not happen the first day or even after the first week you bring your cat home. Be patient!

With patience, understanding and love you and your family will eventually create a wonderfully rewarding relationship with your new cat or kitten.

- Be patient with your cat if it does not warm up to you right away.
- Give your cat time. It may take awhile before your cat feels comfortable enough to play with you.
- Do not try to pet your cat right away because it may scare it away.
- Do not try to force your cat to play with you or force it to be held right away.
- Clear your cat's room of people so as not to overwhelm your cat.
- Sit very still in your cat's room with your cat for a few minutes.
- Don't make any sudden movements that may scare your cat.
- When your cat lingers beside you for awhile, slowly reach out to pet your cat if it lets you.
- Give your cat a couple of weeks to become comfortable enough to let you pet it.
- Show your cat around its new home. Let it get familiar with it.
- Show your cat where its food, water bowls, litter box, bed and toys are.
- Put your cat into its litter box as soon as possible.
- Let your cat use the litter box if it needs to or walk out if it chooses not to use it.
- If you are bringing a new kitten home, keep the kitten in the same room as the litter box for a couple of weeks.

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