



CAT ADOPTION INFORMATION

What to prepare before you adopt:

When you take your new cat(s) or kitten(s) home, you'll want to have their space and supplies prepared and set up for them ahead of time. Because your home will be a lot of new space (and potentially other pets) for a cat to adjust to, we ask that you prepare a small room where the new cat can be confined for the first week or two (a bathroom or spare room with no bed works best). If you are adopting shy cat(s) or kitten(s), please allow them plenty of time in this smaller space before letting them out. The kitties should be comfortable, approaching you for attention, and taking ownership of their space before being given access to more of the house. You'll need the following to start.

• Litter box / litter

- All of our cats are housed in foster homes, so we don't use a universal type of litter. Generally for kittens, we recommend a non clumping litter in case they eat it (paper or pine pellets work well). For adult cats, find out what your new cat has been used to using and try to purchase something similar.
- The litter box can be on the smaller side to start out, especially if your bathroom is small, but growing kittens and adult cats will usually need a larger sized box by the time they are introduced to more of the home. If you go with a hooded box, be sure to start with the hood off until you're sure your cat(s) are using the box reliably.

• Food

- The food / water should be located as far away from the litter box as possible while your cat is confined to a smaller space.
- All of our cats are housed in foster homes, so we don't use a universal type of food. It is always a good idea to ask your cat's foster parent what kind of food they are used to so you can start with something the same or similar.
- We strongly recommend feeding your cat canned/wet poultry based grain free food daily. This can supplement a dry formula, but it's even better for adult cats (especially males) to be maintained on a moist diet to keep the urinary tract and kidneys healthy. Whatever food you choose, be sure that the protein levels are around 40% and that at least two of the first three ingredients are real meat. As well, try to avoid any foods that use "meat by products".

CAT ADOPTION INFORMATION

- If you're adopting kitten(s), be sure to use a "Kitten" or "All Life Stages" formula for the first year of life. A high quality poultry based dry kitten food is a good staple, and growing kittens should eat as much as they want. Canned food should be offered daily as well (ideally twice per day). As your kitten(s) reach about 6-7 months of age, you can move towards more of a feeding schedule. It is healthier for adult kitties to have a regular feeding schedule rather than grazing / free feeding, so it's best to start young with the regimen.

- **Bed**

- The bed should be located as far from the litter box as possible (next to food / water is fine). Ask your cat's foster parent if they have any familiar smelling rags or bedding they can pass along to help with the transition, especially for older or shy kitties.

- **Scratcher**

- If you can fit a small scratching post in the kitty room (a flat cardboard scratcher is a great starter), the confinement period is a great opportunity to introduce good scratching post habits!

- Once your cat(s) have adjusted to the home and had their first vet visit, you can begin giving them more space to explore. Providing perches, scratchers, cat trees, shelves, etc. up off the ground will allow your new pet(s) to navigate their new space in a more natural way and will instantly make your cat(s) feel more comfortable and safe. If you have existing cats in the home, it is important to provide new perches / scratchers when your new cat(s) begin to share space with your existing cat(s), so they each have their own territory and will be less likely to bicker over space.

What to bring when you adopt:

Please remember that our foster homes are usually expecting more kitties in need to arrive soon after you adopt your cat(s), so they are not able to send you home with many supplies. We do provide a small amount of the food your cat(s) are used to, as well as a familiar smelling blanket when possible, but we need our carriers for future kitties. Your new cat should be inside the carrier with the door latched at all times during the journey home. Remember that your cat will be afraid, and the best way to keep them safe and prevent them from being lost or hurt during the transition is by using a carrier.

- **Secure carrier**
- **Adoption fee (PayPal: [paypal.me/rainrescue](https://www.paypal.com/merchot?ra=rainrescue), or cash)**
- **Printed adoption contract (or email scan of signed copy)**

CAT ADOPTION INFORMATION

Adoption fee payment information:

Adoption fees are due at time of adoption and nonrefundable, unless you have specifically arranged a Trial Adoption (this form of adoption is reserved for special needs cats or cats who have not yet arrived from California prior to adoption). Adoption fees are listed on our website and on each pet's listing. Adoption fees go directly and fully back to the rescue to take care of the kitties.

- **PayPal:** Payable to paypal.me/rainrescue
- **Cash:** You are always welcome to pay your adoption fee in cash to your cat's foster parent, but we do prefer electronic payment whenever possible.

Health and vet care:

The medical care your cat(s) have received prior to adoption will depend on the age of the cat and the length of time the cat has been in rescue. You will receive copies (either hard or electronic) of all of the medical records we have for your cat. We ask that you bring your new cat to the vet within 14 days and before allowing your new pet to interact with existing pets in the home.

• General Care:

- All r.a.i.n. cats and kittens are spayed / neutered, microchipped, and at least started on FVRCP vaccines prior to adoption (if not finished).

• Vaccinations:

- Cats over 3 months arriving from out of state will have a current Rabies vaccine.
- Adults receive one FVRCP vaccine, and if no vaccine history is known, they receive one booster 2-4 weeks later. Kittens receive FVRCP booster vaccinations every 2-4 weeks from 5 weeks until 16 weeks of age. Please consult your vet about any further boosters your new cat(s) may still need.
- Adult cats should receive some vaccinations yearly and some every 3 years after the first round of vaccinations. Please consult your vet about your new cat's vaccine schedule.

CAT ADOPTION INFORMATION

- While some cats will occasionally have had additional vaccinations, r.a.i.n. generally provides only the core vaccines (Rabies and FVRCP).

• Deworming:

- Kittens are dewormed every 2-4 weeks along with their vaccinations. Your medical records will indicate which types of dewormer were used for your cat(s).

- Adult cats are only dewormed as necessary.

- We strongly recommend having a fecal test done at your vet during your first vet visit to ensure your new cat is parasite free.

• FIV / FeLV Testing:

- Kittens under 6 months of age are usually not combo tested prior to adoption, because false positives are so common with that age group.

- Because we have done so well eradicating these diseases (which now only affect 1-2% of cats), adult cats are tested only on a case by case basis. Unaltered adult males coming from areas with high populations of cats are always combo tested. Females coming from similar situations are also often tested. Please feel free to ask whether or not the cat you are interested in has already been tested, and / or have the test done at your first vet visit if you are concerned.

- Keep in mind that FIV is NO BIG DEAL! FIV+ cats live long, happy, healthy lives, and can easily coexist with FIV- cats without issue. FeLV is less common, but more contagious and has more of an effect on a cat's health.

• Microchipping:

- Your cat will be microchipped prior to adoption.

- Microchips are only useful when registered! Please follow the instructions provided to register your pet's microchip right away. We are happy to be the emergency contact on the registration.

Cat Proofing:

Using a small room to help your new cat(s) adjust to your home is also a great way for you to discover what your cat(s) might get into while you're home to supervise, rather than while you're away and not able to protect your new pet(s) from potential hazards.

CAT ADOPTION INFORMATION

- **Houseplants:**

- Be sure to research whether or not your plants are toxic to cats. **AVOID LILIES!** While most toxic plants will simply upset your cat's stomach, one small bite of a lily can kill a cat very quickly. Other plants can usually be placed out of reach or hung from the ceiling if your cat(s) are interested in eating them.

- **Cleaning products:**

- There are plenty of cleaning products on the market that are safe for cats. Be sure to look up the products you use and, if they are toxic, wipe surfaces down with soap and water before giving your new cat access to them.

Questions / Concerns?

Please reach out anytime during your cat's life if you have questions, concerns, or need advice. We will always take our cats back if an adoption doesn't work out, but we would rather work with you to solve problems when they arise rather than hear from you after you've decided to return your pet. We are committed to helping each of our kitties have a successful adoption and providing the support our adopters need to keep their pets peacefully at home.

Email: info@rainrescue-wa.org

Call / text: 206-718-1120