

Your New Persian Kitten

Your New Persian Kitten Care Package Contains: A Baggie of Food, Canned Food Sample, Greyhound Comb, Pet Bed, Toys including a Cat Dancer, Kitten Care Booklet, and a First 48 Hours Booklet

Bringing your Persian Kitten home: please have food and water bowls, litter boxes, pet bed (especially the one that went home with you, it will have familiar smells and help your kitten feel more content), scratching posts and toys set up in a separate room. Keeping your kitten in a small room (safe room) is a great way to introduce them to your home. Put your Persian Kitten in their room and allow them to explore. Sit on the floor and talk and play with them. Spend time with your new kitten in this room, playing and hugging. A cat dancer toy is an excellent way to bond with your new kitten. Be sure not to leave the cat dancer or any other toy with a string or rope on the floor for your kitten to play with unattended; it can get wrapped around their neck or caught in their fur. This play time is essential for bonding before your kitten is introduced to other animals or to the larger areas of your home. When you are at home, leave the kitten explore further from their safe room (as long as other cats and dogs get along with your new kitten). Always remind your kitten where the food, water and litter box are throughout the day, until kitty learns your home. When you are not at home, put your kitty back in their safe room until you feel it is the right time to leave the kitty out alone.

Kitten Proofing Your Home

Before you bring your Persian kitten or cat home, be sure to follow the instructions on kitten proofing your home. Tie all blind cords up out of your kitten's reach. Use the "child proof" caps for all electrical outlets. Be careful that any sewing items, such as needles and pins, yarn, thread, etc., are not lying around. Cover electrical cords so that your kitten does not chew on them. Any small objects lying around should be picked up; kittens are always into everything. Anything they can get to with STRING on it should be considered dangerous (watch the dental floss you throw in the wastebasket each day). Be careful that they do not have access to any pieces of aluminum foil that you have discarded, as this can be dangerous to them if swallowed. Make sure all toilet seats are kept down, so your kitty does not jump in!

Watch for the following chemicals and plants that are hazardous to your Persian kitten: Drain Cleaners and Pine Cleaning Products: If you use them, BE SURE to keep kitty away from the area until you can rinse the chemicals well to be sure there is no residue. This may mean keeping doors closed or kitty in their safe room. Cats will often lick the bottom of a sink and drain cleaners and pine cleaning products are clear fluid and very toxic.

Sap from Christmas trees is also toxic. While thinking of the holidays, please be aware that **tinsel** can lodge in the intestines of your kitty, so do not use tinsel on your tree.

Here is a list of other chemicals that are dangerous to cats: Acetaminophen (pain killers), Aspirin, Bleach, Brake Fluid, Boric Acid, Cleaning Fluid, Deodorants, Deodorizers, Disinfectants, Dye, Fungicides, Furniture Polish, Gasoline, Herbicides, Insecticide, Laxatives, Metal Polish, Mineral Spirits, Mothballs, Nail Polish & Remover, Paint, Paint Remover, Rat and Ant Poison, Rubbing Alcohol, Shoe Polish, Snail and Slug Bait, Suntan Lotion. Please keep all chemicals out of reach of your Persian kitten.

Poisonous Plants: There are so many poisonous plants. Kittens love to play with anything that moves, so please do not allow your Persian kitten to chew on any plants in your home.

Just in Case: ASPCA Animal Poison Control # 888-426-4435 (a fee may apply) or keep your Emergency Veterinary phone number handy.

Diet & Nutrition

Your Persian kitten is used to eating moist food twice a day. I've been feeding **Merrick Duck/Rabbit/Turkey, Chicken, etc...** Cats are an *obligate carnivore, and as such, canned food is closer to its natural diet. Water is very important to your Persian kitten. Cats do not have a strong thirst drive when compared to some other species. This makes it imperative that they have a diet that is water rich. Offer your kitten canned food at least twice daily. Increase amount with age. Dry food should be left out at all times along with fresh water. Crock type water dishes are the best as the water stays colder than stainless steel or plastic. I have been feeding a mixture of 3 foods, they are: **Purina Beyond Grain Free Ocean Whitefish & Egg, Purina Beyond Salmon, Egg & Sweet Potato, Purina One Tender Select, I start your kitten out with Royal Canin Mother & Babycat.** You will receive a baggie of the mixed foods. I do this because some kittens are picky eaters; this way there is a flavor for everyone. It's up to you what you decide to feed; if you decide to change food, do it over a period of time. The first three days mix 75% old food and 25% new food, days 4-6 mix 50/50, and so on. I do recommend staying with a kitten food until 1 year of age. **Obligate carnivore: animals that must by their nature live on a diet of meat. They do not or no longer have the ability to digest vegetable matter.*

Persian Kittens and Cats tend to get poop stuck to their bottoms because of their long hair, you will need to get in the habit to checking their bottoms daily.

Litter Boxes

With small Persian kittens, I suggest that you have a couple of litter boxes placed at strategic intervals in your house. If your house has more than one level, there should be at least one box on each level. It can be difficult for a young Persian kitten to make it from one end of the house to the other "in time." Your Persian kitten is used to an open litter box. If you opt for a closed box, your kitten should adjust.

Cats prefer the clumping litter, because it is softer on their paws. Your kitten is used to Tidy Cat Scoopable Litter (24/7) (red cap). The litter should be scooped at least once or twice per day (more often if you have multiple cats). Cats do not like dirty litter boxes and the best way to avoid house soiling is to keep the litter box clean. A total litter change should be done at least monthly and the litter box should be cleaned and disinfected with each change. Litter boxes should be changed out on an annual basis. When the cat scratches to cover up, they leave scratch marks in the bottom of the litter box. Over time, the scratches in the box will cause the box to retain odors, which your Persian cat will find unpleasant.

Grooming & Bathing Your Persian Kitten

Combing: comb in the direction the fur grows, not against it. Use the comb at a 45-degree angle to your kitten's body to avoid "raking" the skin. Start getting your kitten used to the comb as soon as possible. Regular grooming (one to twice per week) will greatly reduce shedding and hairballs. Persians tend to get the most knots behind their ears and under their front arm pits. Use a metal comb (Greyhound Comb). One is included in your Kitten Care Package. If necessary, after combing or brushing, a quick wipe with a damp washcloth will remove those stragglers that cling to the coat.

Nail Clipping: A kitten's nails will need to be clipped more often than an adult cat. Kittens usually need their nails clipped every one to two weeks and adults every three to four weeks. Neglect of clipping nails can cause the nails to grow back into the paw pad. The kitten will usually resist having their nails clipped, though I have clipped them weekly since your kitten was two weeks old. The best time to clip nails is right after a nap when the kitten is not so playful. When clipping your kitten's nails, be careful not to cut into the "quick," which is the pink part of the nail. We recommend a pet nail clipper that you hold like a scissors. It gives you more control over cutting the kitten's nails and is less likely to split the nail.

Bathing: Your kitten has had 2 baths so far and we do use a blow dryer. I did not say that the kitten liked it but they have already been exposed to bathing and drying. When they get dirty wash them. I would not bathe more than once every 3 months unless they get unusually dirty. Some cats keep themselves so clean you may only want to bathe them once a year.

The Process For Bathing Your Kitten:

You will need: Shampoo and a large towel. NOW, put on your Bullet Proof Vest, Welding Gloves, and Face Mask. LOL..... Just kidding.

- 1) Clip their nails BEFORE BATHING. THIS IS A MUST. Then you won't need the welding gloves!!
- 2) COMB them out completely. Any knots will become worse with washing. IT IS BEST TO COMB THEM BEFORE THEIR BATH.
- 3) Put them in the sink and wet their fur using lukewarm water.
- 4) THROUGH OUT THIS WHOLE PROCESS KEEP IN MIND HOW WARM YOU ARE KEEPING THEM. DO NOT GET THEM TOO HOT, ESPECIALLY WITH THE HAIR DRYER. Rinse and then when you think you are done, RINSE some more. It is not good to leave soap in their fur. They will lick it off and it will dry their skin out. Drying after the bath - DO NOT GET THEM TOO HOT WITH THE BLOW DRYER.

5) Once dry give another combing and WOLLA you have a beautiful clean kitty.....

Eye Care: Because of the flat, snub-nosed face that characterizes the breed; Persian cats have a tendency to suffer from teary eyes. As a result, their faces may become discolored, especially the Silver Persians. I use Eye Envy Powder (www.eyeenvy.com). It will only take a few minutes to wipe around their eyes. If the draining remains unchecked, your cat may end up with unsightly staining. Cats with more pronounced muzzles tend to deal with these issues less frequently than those with much flatter faces. Commercial wipes and tear stain remover have been specially formulated for use around (never in) the eyes. I recommend using Eye Envy Powder or another commercially prepared product. However, you may use a tissue, paper towel, or washcloth dampened with warm water.

Ear Care: As with most cats, Persians are unable to groom themselves inside their ears. Their owners must take the responsibility to clean out uncomfortable and disruptive waxy buildup. This may be accomplished with special swabs, liquid ear cleaner, a tissue, dampened paper towel, or soft washcloth. Because their ears host some of the most sensitive skin on a cat's body, special care must be taken to ensure the procedure is completed as quickly, efficiently, and tenderly as possible.

***Last But Not Least: ENJOY YOUR NEW
PERSIAN KITTEN!!***

If you ever have any questions, feel free to contact me

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