

## **General Information for Adopting a Cat from Pet Pride**

### **Cat Food**

When selecting a high quality cat food, check the ingredient list to make sure a named meat source is the first ingredient. You should try to avoid foods with corn or corn gluten, wheat, soy, or brewers' rice. A diet high in carbohydrates is bad for your cat and may lead to diabetes later in life. What you want to see in the ingredient list are names fish and meats, high quality grains like brown rice, barley, oatmeal, and plenty of vegetables.

### **Other Supplies**

Non-plastic food and water bowls, a litter box, cat litter and scooper are important supplies to have for your new pet. Water is essential for a healthy cat; make sure your pet always has access to plenty of clean drinking water. And of course, have lots of toys to keep them busy and happy.

### **Scratching**

Providing a scratching post will prevent most cats from scratching in other places. Some cats prefer a cardboard scratching post while others like a rope one. You may have to try a few before you find your pet's favorite. Clipping your pet's nails will also help with scratching. Buy a good pair of animal clippers at your pet store and the job will be less stressful on you and your cat. Never use human nail clippers or shears because they split the nail. Pressing on your cat's footpads will cause them to extend their nails. Clip the sharp part of the nail, only in the white part (the very tip), not the pink. Ask your vet to show you how to do it if you have never done it before.

### **Veterinary Care for Your New Cat**

Forming a good relationship with a veterinarian will get your new cat off to a great start. All cats and kittens adopted at Pet Pride have had a basic health check up with a veterinarian. However, it is impossible for us to provide a guarantee on the health status of your pet. If you notice something wrong or have other medical concerns, please contact your veterinarian. Following are some treatments that our cat may have received, as well as medical issues you should know about and watch for.

#### ***Spay/Neuter***

If your new kitten hasn't been fixed yet be sure to call your vet and set up an appointment to do so. Most vets recommend fixing a kitten between 4 to 6 months of age.

#### ***Vaccinations***

All cats are current on FVRCP and Rabies vaccinations and negative for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) / Feline Leukemia (FeLV), or are determined to be current based on previous records. You are responsible for obtaining boosters and other follow-up vaccines from a veterinarian.

#### ***Intestinal Parasites***

We administer a general dewormer to all cats. On your first veterinary visit, we recommend you take a fresh stool sample to check for internal parasites and determine if any additional deworming is needed.

#### ***Fleas/Ticks***

We treat any cat found to have fleas and/or ticks with Revolution. Your cat may need continued treatment as directed by your veterinarian.

## **General Information for Adopting a Cat from Pet Pride Continued**

### ***Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)***

URI is almost always present in shelter environments just as colds are common in children at daycare. Your cat may have had URI or been exposed to it while in our care. URI is caused by a variety of organisms that cause symptoms such as sneezing, eye and nose discharge, congestion and lack of appetite. Moving into a new environment often creates stress and can cause a cat to show signs of URI. If you notice any of these symptoms, consult with your veterinarian about treatment and possible risks to other household pets.

### ***Feline Distemper***

Panleukopenia is a very infectious, deadly disease that is very similar to canine parvovirus. Kittens and younger cats are most at risk, and common symptoms are lethargy, decreased appetite, vomiting and diarrhea. The incubation period is 3-10 days. If your kitten or cat shows any signs of these symptoms, please see your veterinarian immediately. Following your veterinarian's vaccination recommendation is essential to fully protect your kitten or cat against this deadly disease.

### ***Ear Mites***

Cats are checked for ear mites and treated with ear cleaning and appropriate medication as needed. Additional cleaning and/or follow-up treatment may be required at your own veterinarian.

### ***Hair Loss***

Cats are usually screened for coat problems and tested for parasites, ringworm and other conditions if warranted. However, it is impossible for us to guarantee any animal to be free of these skin conditions. Any observations of hair loss should be brought to the attention of your veterinarian.

### ***Microchips***

Cats are not microchipped before they leave Pet Pride, but we strongly recommend you do this at your veterinarian. Microchips help make sure your cat makes it home if it is ever lost.

Thank you for adopting from Pet Pride of New York, Inc.