

# Veterinary recommendations for kittens



Congratulations on adopting your kitten!



Here are some **essential points** to ensure your companion's health and quality of life. Our team is available for annual check-ups and emergencies.

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DELORIMIER & ROSEMONT | JEAN-TALON AVIDM inc.

## Annual Check-up and Vaccines

Upon adoption, schedule a general exam and start vaccinations. These will continue monthly until your kitten is 16 weeks old, with a booster one year after the last dose. Recommended vaccines include:

**FeCP (core)** provide protection against several disease, such as:

- **Rhinotracheitis:** This virus is transmitted through direct contact or secretions from an infected cat. It can cause nasal discharge, conjunctivitis, loss of appetite, and fever. Infected cats may remain carriers for life.
  - **Calicivirus:** A highly contagious virus spread through direct or indirect contact between cats. It causes cold-like symptoms with mouth ulcers and can be fatal in kittens.
  - **Panleukopenia:** A severe, potentially fatal disease causing digestive issues and weakening the immune system. It spreads indirectly, mainly through contact with infected feces, and can survive in the environment for up to a year.
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- **Feline Leukemia:** Recommended for cats with outdoor access, this vaccine protects against a highly contagious virus transmitted through saliva. Feline leukemia can cause various serious symptoms and remains contagious for life.
  - **Rabies:** A zoonotic disease (transmissible to humans) caused by bites. It can cause severe neurological symptoms and is fatal. Many cities require up-to-date rabies vaccinations to obtain a pet license.

These vaccines are essential for preventing the risk of contagious and serious health complications in cats.

## Deworming

Until 6 months old, it is recommended to deworm your kitten monthly. This helps treat different stages of parasites and prevent reinfection from eggs or parasites that may remain in the environment.

## Parasite Prevention

For outdoor cats, monthly parasite prevention is prescribed to protect against ticks, fleas, mites, and internal parasites during warmer months. Even in urban areas, ticks are common and can transmit various diseases to your cat.

## Spaying/Neutering

Spaying/neutering your cat has many advantages. It helps prevent territorial marking, certain reproductive health issues, and unwanted litters. It is especially recommended for outdoor cats or if you have an intact cat of the opposite sex.

Your veterinarian can provide a cost estimate before planning the procedure. Call the clinic to schedule an appointment. When planning, the veterinarian will also prescribe a calming and anti-nausea medication for your cat's comfort before surgery.

## Microchipping

The microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is injected between your kitten's shoulder blades. It allows identification if your pet gets lost, as it can be scanned by veterinary clinics and shelters. Note, it has no GPS function. Keep your information up to date on the microchip company's website.

Microchipping is now required in many cities to obtain a pet license.

## Diet

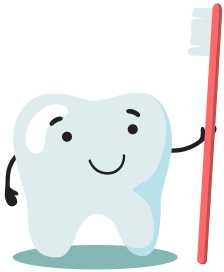
Your cat's diet plays an essential role in its health throughout life. It is important to be well-informed about the food you choose. It's recommended to feed a diet that meets the AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) nutrient profile standards. Look for the « AAFCO Statement » on the bag that confirms the diet provided is « complete and balanced nutrition for growing kittens.

When your kitten is one year old, we recommend changing the kitten food for adult food, by doing a progressive transition over a week.

To choose an adequate adult food, look for the « AAFCO Statement » on the bag that confirms the diet provided is « complete and balanced nutrition for the maintenance of the adult cat.. For personalized advice, consult your veterinarian.



## Dental Care



Dental health is often overlooked in pets.

Daily brushing is recommended to prevent dental disease.

Be sure to use pet-specific toothpaste (such as CET enzymatic toothpaste available at the clinic). Small toothbrushes are also available to better suit the size of their teeth.

A veterinary dental diet is also suggested for healthy adult cats.

## Desensitization

Your kitten, being in a learning phase, can be gradually and positively introduced to various situations, sounds, smells, objects, and especially handling. We recommend daily handling of your kitten's paws, ears, mouth, and body. This will help your kitten better accept interactions with people and ease future veterinary exams.

These handling sessions, combined with treats, create a positive association, making your kitten more cooperative during vet visits.

Once your kitten is comfortable with paw handling, you can start trimming their nails every 4-12 weeks, depending on how quickly they grow.



## Pet Insurance

Pet insurance can cover part of medical expenses, including dental care and some alternative therapies. You can get an online quote from various insurance companies.

Have a question? **Contact us!**

Or visit [www.cvetmontreal.ca](http://www.cvetmontreal.ca)



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