

Kitten Care

Feeding

Your kitten has been raised on a high quality, all natural, human grade diet. We feed Verus brand kibble, free choice. In addition, raw meat is offered twice daily. The raw mixture contains Whole Life LifeBites Chicken Recipe Freeze-Dried Cat Food, which has been moistened with warm water, and human grade beef supplied from a private source. This meat has been denatured and properly handled and is safe to feed raw, unlike ground beef that you would purchase from a grocery store. To that mixture, we add NuVet Plus feline vitamin supplement. We Strongly urge you to continue your new kitten on this supplement for at least it's first year of life whether to choose to feed commercially prepared food or raw. We stock and offer for sale all of the supplies that we use and recommend. To educate yourself on good feline nutrition, you will find useful information at www.catinfo.org/ as well as www.felinefuture.com.

We have done extensive research to ensure that our kittens are receiving a nutritionally balanced diet. It is our opinion that your cat should be on a high quality vitamin supplement for life, in order to plug up any holes in the nutritional value of whichever diet you should decide to feed your kitty. In a marketplace where products are always "NEW AND IMPROVED" and subject to recall, we wholeheartedly endorse NuVet Plus and believe it to be superior to any other supplements on the market.

You may want to offer a home cooked food for your kitten. In a large pot, place fresh skinless chicken, 2 bouillon cubes, and enough water to cover. Simmer until meat can be removed from the bones. Remove ALL bones. Add 2 eggs and cook slightly. Remove from heat. Cool. Add vitamins and a small amount of uncooked oatmeal to thicken. Refrigerate.

If you prefer to feed a canned food, we recommend Wellness, and Before Grain. Do not buy low-end commercial food that contains poultry by-product meal, corn or corn gluten meals, or wheat. Remember, cats are carnivores and all dry and canned foods are inferior to a raw diet.

Because a new environment is stressful, offer three wet feedings a day for the first 2 weeks. At four months, reduce the wet feedings to twice daily, then once daily at 6 months. Ensure dry food and fresh water is available at all times. Please contact your veterinarian or me if your kitten does not eat for more than a day when you first bring it home.

When selecting your bowls, always use ceramic, glass or stainless steel. Plastics retain bacteria that can lead to a number of health issues including dermatitis. We highly discourage automatic

feeders and waters. These become a breeding ground for bacteria. The fountains that have filters are wonderful for your new pet.

Treats

Treats that we use at shows and at home are Whole Life Pure Chicken and Wellness Pure Delights, both being natural treats. Regular infant strained baby meat is also a welcome. Some cats love fresh yogurt. Remember, cats are lactose intolerant, and should not be given regular cow's milk, but goat's milk is tolerated and enjoyed.

Litter

We use and recommend litter crystals; specifically Fresh Magic or Precious Cat. Litter crystals have many advantages: environmentally friendly, chemical (perfume) free, anti-bacterial, great odor control, clean, lightweight, easy clean up, and more! Cat Attract contains herbs that actually attract the cat to the litter box! Crystals absorb urine on contact and dehydrates feces to reduce bacteria and odor. These litters are safe for kittens. They are not flushable. If you are having litter box issues, you can contact a cat behaviorist on line at www.preciouscat.com. Your kitten has also been introduced to Precious Cat scoop able clay litter.

Litter box

When bringing home a kitten, always keep him or her confined to the room where you intend to keep the litter box when you do not have the time to supervise. We recommend a large, deep box for your kitten. Some cats will use a hooded one, but many will not. If you decide on a hooded box, keep the lid off until your cat is comfortable with his new "potty". Boxes should be cleaned daily. An automatic box may be scary for a kitten, but if you would like to try one when he is older, we have heard great things about the Litter-Robot. To avoid poor potty habits, please refer to Roxanne's Rules. We also use and recommend THE BREEZE litter system. Your kitten has NOT been introduced to THE BREEZE, but we use it for our own pets and love it!

Toys

Bengal cats are very serious about their toys! These cats are active, intelligent, curious, and athletic. You will want to select toys that are safe and sturdy. Remove any strings, eyes, or feathers from "low end" toys. Our cats love balls, toys that make noise, and sturdy catnip filled soft toys. We like the quality of Yeeoww brand toys. Cat wheels are also a big hit. Sisal toys and sisal claw posts also hold up well. If you are local, you can buy cat trees direct from the manufacture at <http://www.pointerhill.com/>. Cat wheels can be purchased through Indian Creek. Please contact us for more information.

As a word of caution, please “cat proof” your home before bringing in your new pet. Bengal cats are attracted to water. Remember to leave toilet seats down, bathtubs drained, and washing machine and dryer lids shut. Electric cords and outlets, hot stoves, reclining chairs, and toxic indoor plants are potential hazards. Restrict your new cat from area that contains your “valuable” china. Also, Bengal cats love high places!

Vaccinations and Veterinarian Recommendations

(Please share with your Veterinarian)

While anatomically the Bengal is like any other domestic cat, there are some recommended protocols that are unique. Please, never lose site of the fact that these are hybrids! Consider that many/most domestic breeds have been around for thousands of years, even back to Ancient Egyptian times. Through natural selection, most cats bring some natural immunities “to the table”, so to speak. The Asian Leopard has none of these. Therefore, the Bengal, who is only about 35 years young, has a very slow to develop immune system. For that reason, we recommend a conservative approach.

In most cases, your kitten was vaccinated for Panleukopenia, Calicivirus, Rhinotracheitis and Chlamydia using a killed vaccine at 10 weeks. The normal protocol would include one more booster at fourteen weeks, and then one year. Boosters are recommended every three years after that.

We are a FeLV/FIV Negative cattery. Bengal cats appear have a natural immunity to Feline Leukemia, and, therefore should not be vaccinated for the disease. (There have been a few documented cases of FeLV positive Bengals. Those cases are rare, and believed to be in “Bengals” far removed from the leopard, or mixed breeds). Additionally, if vaccinated, your cat could show a “false positive” for future testing. ***Vaccinating for FeLV/FIV or FIP will void your health guarantee.

Law requires rabies Vaccinations. Kittens may receive a single dose of a killed vaccine after 14 weeks of age. A booster may be administered at one year, then every three years after that. Some Bengals react poorly to the rabies vaccine, Therefore, if your kitten is not at risk, we suggest you postpone the rabies vaccine until 6 months or older.

***Note- we do not recommend, “Stacking” vaccines: rabies should not be given in conjunction with other boosters or at the time of surgery. Failure to comply will void your health guarantee.

All adult cats and kittens are spay/neutered, examined by a licensed veterinarian, and micro-chipped prior to leaving our cattery. If you are local to our cattery, we STRONGLY recommend that you use North Penn Animal Hospital, our cattery veterinarian, for any future medical services. Most veterinarians see very few Bengals in their practice, and do not specialize in the

Bengal's particular needs. Our veterinarian makes regular visits, inspects our cattery, and is familiar with all of our adult cats. The doctors at North Penn are accustomed to our veterinary protocol, past breeder history, and are aware of any medical issues surrounding our cattery.

*** If you are unable to use our cattery veterinarian, INSIST that your vet does not use Ketamine as an anesthetic for any procedure. We prefer Isoflurane.

Please remember that your health guarantee will be voided if you decide to declaw your kitten. For information on declawing refer to <http://www.ora-animalsrescue.org/catcare3.html> and <http://maxshouse.com/>.

We use and recommend North Penn Animal Hospital, specifically Dr. Joe Rossi. They can be contacted at (215) 855-5853 www.npah.com

We stock and distribute NuVet Plus supplements, Raw Beef, Verus brand kibble, Fresh Magic litter crystals, and Precious Cat scoop.

