

Cedar Veterinary Group

# Care Of Your New Kitten



Visit [www.cedarvet.com](http://www.cedarvet.com) for tips and advice on looking after your pets, or follow us on facebook: [@cedarvet](https://www.facebook.com/cedarvet)

# Congratulations on the arrival of your new kitten!

It is our aim to help you keep your kitten happy, fit and healthy from day one. We therefore recommend the following procedures so you can relax in the knowledge that your kitten is receiving all it needs at this important stage of life.

## VACCINATIONS

The ideal time for your kitten to have its first part of a two course vaccination is at the age of 9 weeks. This injection will protect your kitten from:

- 1. Feline Enteritis or Panleukopenia**, a virus that causes severe and often fatal gastroenteritis. It is most common in kittens and young cats – the mortality rate is very high.
- 2. Feline Respiratory Disease or Cat Flu** is a common condition affecting cats of all ages. Although it is not life threatening it causes suffering, often for many weeks.
- 3. Feline Leukaemia Virus**, disease resulting from this is invariably fatal. It affects the immune and blood systems and can cause cancer. Fighting among cats spreads the virus, along with grooming and bowl sharing.

At this appointment you will be given a vaccination card which is updated by the vet to record your pet's vaccination details. This card will be unique to your pet and important for acceptance into catteries. Please remember to bring it along every time your kitten visits us for vaccination. Your kitten will also be given a full health check by the vet, with advice on worming, dietary needs and preventative flea treatment.

The second vaccination should be given 3 - 4 weeks after the first. After these initial vaccinations, keep your kitten indoors for a further 4 weeks, allowing their immune system to respond. Your pet's next vaccination (booster) will be an annual injection one year from the date of the second vaccination. We will send you a reminder when this is due.

## WORMING

Worm treatment should be carried out from the age of 5 weeks and then every 2 weeks until 12 weeks old, and then monthly until the age of 6 months. A number of different products are available, please ask a member of staff to recommend a suitable product. From the age of 6 months an adult wormer tablet or spot-on wormer treatment can be given which should be administered every 3 months.

These treatments are particularly important if your cat is a regular hunter and if you have young children.

## **PREVENTATIVE FLEA TREATMENT**

Kittens can be safely treated from 2 days of age with a flea prevention spray or from 6 weeks old with a spot-on treatment. These need to be used monthly or occasionally every 6-8 weeks depending on the product. Injectable prevention can be given from 6 weeks old and will last for 6 months. Care needs to be taken when choosing a treatment as many do not treat flea eggs and larvae and are therefore unsuitable once infestation is present.

## **PET HEALTHCARE PLAN**

We offer healthcare plans to pay monthly and save money on your pet's preventative healthcare.

A pet healthcare plan is not pet insurance. It covers the regular treatments your pet needs throughout life such as vaccinations, flea and worm treatments and regular health checkups. Further information is available from the practice. Your bank details are required to set up the direct debits.

## **DIETARY NEEDS**

A 'complete' kitten food is recommended. It is important that if a change of diet has to be made it is a gradual one. Many health problems can result from feeding a unsuitable diet. Please feel free to discuss you kitten's dietary needs with the vet at your appointment, or our nurses who will be more than happy to help you.

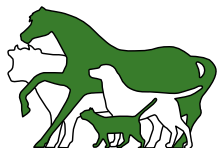
## **MICROCHIP**

This is an excellent device to enable your pet to be identified quickly should they ever become lost or injured. We insert a tiny microchip, encoded with a number unique to your kitten, under the skin on the neck. This number can be read at many establishments e.g veterinary surgeries, police stations, dog warden and RSPCA. We highly recommend this procedure as we have reunited many pets and owners using this system. Peace of mind for under £20.

## **NEUTERING**

Castration for males and spaying for females is recommended from the age of 4 1/2 - 5 months. For either operation your cat will be admitted in the morning and can be collected in the evening. For spays a follow up consultation will be required 10 days after the operation for the vet to remove the stitches.





# Cedar Veterinary Group

## Surgery Hours

### **ALTON**

**Monday - Friday:** 9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 6.20 pm

**Saturday:** 8.30am - 12.30pm

Tel: 01420 82163

### **FOUR MARKS**

**Monday - Friday:** 11.30am - 12.30pm and 2.00 - 6.00 pm

Tel. 01420 562048

### **ALRESFORD**

**Monday - Saturday Morning:** By appointment only

**Monday - Friday:** 2.00 - 2.30pm and 5.30 - 6.30pm: Open surgery

Tel: 01962 732535

ALL BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Visit [www.cedarvet.com](http://www.cedarvet.com) for tips and advice on looking after your pets, or follow us on facebook: [@cedarvet](https://www.facebook.com/cedarvet)