A FIRST-YEAR CARE RESOURCE

My kitten's first year

Enter a date of birth to see useful dates for vaccinations, worming, a health check and the early learning window. Tick items as you go, or print the plan and keep it with your pet's health record.

Name (optional)

Your pet's name

Date of birth

dd/mm/yyyy

Final early F3 date (when known)

dd/mm/yyyy

Dates are a planning guide, not a fixed prescription. Have the breeder or rescue record ready for your home visit, or send it ahead. Enter the actual final early vaccine date to calculate the first booster, due 12 months later. Your choices are saved only in this browser.

Kitten learning window

About 2–7/10 weeks. Ask the breeder or carer about early handling, then keep experiences gentle and positive at home. A frightening experience can leave a lasting association. Let your kitten choose to approach, reward curiosity and move away if they show fear.

0 of 29 items ticked

Early learning: a weekly check-in

The earliest weeks are usually with the breeder or carer. Confirm what gentle handling happened, then continue with people, household sounds, play, a carrier and calm introductions.

- ☐ **Week 2** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 3** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 4** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 5** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 6** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 7** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 8** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 9** Date: _____
- ☐ **Week 10** Date: _____

First weeks — usually with the breeder or carer

- [ ] **Confirm intestinal worming at 2 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Ask for the date and product; do not assume an unrecorded dose was given.

- [ ] **Confirm intestinal worming at 4 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Ask for the date and product; do not assume an unrecorded dose was given.

- [ ] **Confirm intestinal worming at 6 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Ask for the date and product; do not assume an unrecorded dose was given.

6–8 weeks — first checks

- [ ] **First F3 vaccination**
  Date: _____
  F3 covers panleukopenia, herpesvirus and calicivirus.

- [ ] **Intestinal worming at 8 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Use a product suitable for the current age and weight.

- [ ] **Book a first health check**
  Date: _____
  Have vaccination, worming and microchip records ready for the home visit.

- [ ] **Check microchip registration and transfer**
  Date: _____
  In Queensland, puppies and kittens should be microchipped before 12 weeks, unless exempt.

- [ ] **Set up flea, paralysis tick and heartworm protection**
  Date: _____
  Use species-, age- and weight-appropriate products; record each product's repeat date.

- [ ] **Plan a slow introduction if you already have a cat**
  Date: _____
  Use a separate room first. Let both cats settle before scent exchange, visual contact and supervised meetings; never force contact.

10–12 weeks — keep the course moving

- [ ] **Intestinal worming at 10 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Check the current weight before dosing.

- [ ] **Next F3 vaccination**
  Date: _____
  Aim for 2–4 weeks after the previous core dose. A 6-week start may need another visit.

- [ ] **Intestinal worming at 12 weeks**
  Date: _____
  Then continue monthly until 6 months.

- [ ] **Discuss FeLV or FIV risk**
  Date: _____
  These are not automatic additions to F3; lifestyle and exposure matter.

- [ ] **Practise carrier and handling training**
  Date: _____
  Reward voluntary entry and gentle, brief handling; stop if the kitten is worried.

16 weeks and after — complete the early course

- [ ] **Final dose of the initial F3 series at 16 weeks or later**

  Date: _____

  The age of this dose matters because maternal antibodies may have blocked earlier doses.

- [ ] **Monthly intestinal worming: first reminder**

  Date: _____

  Follow the product's monthly schedule; do not stretch the interval.

- [ ] **Plan desexing before puberty**

  Date: _____

  Arrange the right timing with a clinic; female kittens can become fertile young.

5–6 months — continue worming

- [ ] **Monthly intestinal worming reminder**

  Date: _____

  Continue the product schedule through 6 months.

- [ ] **Monthly intestinal worming reminder**

  Date: _____

  Review the adult worming plan after 6 months.

12 months after the final early vaccine — first booster and check

- [ ] **Book the first F3 booster and health check**

  Due 12 months after the final early vaccine

  Review F3 timing, respiratory risk, weight, teeth and the ongoing care plan.

Keep protection continuous. Flea, paralysis tick and heartworm products have different starting ages, weight limits and repeat intervals. Set the actual reminder from the label and your vet's advice. A combined product may not cover every parasite. Never use dog flea or tick treatment on a cat.

Based on the WSAVA 2024 vaccination guidelines, AVA vaccination policy and AVA socialisation policy. Intestinal worming reminders reflect the Animal Welfare League Queensland early-life schedule. Cat introduction advice follows the FelineVMA intercat tension guidelines. Last reviewed 25 November 2026.