

HOW OLD IS THAT KITTEN?



Alley Cat Allies

Kittens are adorable at any age, but did you know that figuring out how old a kitten is can help determine what sort of care they need? It can be tricky to tell, but our at-a-glance kitten progression chart, featuring Darling the kitten, is here to help you out!



so fragile!

NEWBORN

When kittens are first born they are completely helpless—their eyes are closed, their ears are folded, and they can't stand. They rely on mom for everything!



ONE WEEK

Darling is starting to become more aware of his surroundings! At about seven days old, a kitten's ears will unfold and their eyes may start to open.



TWO WEEKS

Look at those blue peepers! Darling's eyes are fully open, and he is taking his first wobbly steps. Kittens this age start interacting more with each other, but still need mom.



a little wobbly!

THREE WEEKS

Darling's now playing with his siblings and getting more mobile. You should be able to tell if kittens are boys or girls. You can start providing a litter box and wet food.



FOUR WEEKS

Look how much Darling has grown! At four weeks kittens are sturdy on their feet and playing with each other, toys, and people.



let's play!

FIVE WEEKS

Get ready for a lot of fun! Darling is now full of energy and plays exuberantly. Interacting with people is important for kittens at this age. Darling is developing lots of personality!



SIX WEEKS

Every day Darling is getting more sure of himself through socialization and play. He's using the litter box and eating cat food—though he still visits mom for snacks and comfort.



SEVEN WEEKS

Darling is almost fully weaned, and continues to play and learn. Being introduced to new people, places in the home, and other pets is an important part of socialization.



so grown up!

EIGHT WEEKS

Two pounds! Darling now weighs enough to be neutered. He's also getting more skilled and adventurous. Darling is learning so much from his mom, siblings, and human caregiver.



NINE WEEKS

Looking pretty grown-up, Darling! At this age kittens are behaving and using their body language like adult cats. Darling is eating all solid food, and his eyes have gone from blue to yellow.



ready to take on the world!

TEN WEEKS

Darling is fully weaned, neutered, and—because he was socialized to people—ready for his loving adoptive home. They grow up so fast!

Get even more details (and cute pics!) with our week-by-week kitten progression resource at

alleycat.org/KittenProgression