



Bringing Your New Cat Home

Congratulations on adopting your new cat! No doubt you are looking forward to years of happy companionship. But what do you do now?

Coming Home

The first thing you should know about your new pet is that most cats hate to travel. For the trip home, confine your pet in a sturdy cat carrier. Don't leave them loose in your car where they might panic and cause an accident, or run out when you open the car door. They may yowl or cry and try to get out of the carrier, but don't give in.

Upon Arrival

After the ride home, they will most likely be stressed and not in the mood for fun. To make their transition to your home as comfortable as possible, select a quiet, closed-in area (such as a bathroom or small bedroom) and provide them with everything they will need (litter box, food and water, toys, a bed, and a scratching post).

Let your new pet become acquainted with that limited area for at least the first few days or week. Be sure to spend plenty of time with them in that room. If they are hiding, don't force them to come out. Instead, sit on the floor and talk softly to them, and offer treats, toys, or wet food.

Some cats may need more or less time to adjust; pay attention to their behavior and stress level to determine when they are ready to move onto the next step. Go slow and give your new cat the time they need to adjust and feel comfortable in their new home.

Introducing Them To The Rest Of Your Home

Over the next few days, slowly help your cat become familiar with the rest of the home and other members of the family. Make sure they always have access to "their" room so they can retreat to it if they feel nervous. It will take some time, but they'll eventually start to feel comfortable in their new home.

Avoid conflict when bringing a new cat into the family by carefully introducing them to any other pets (refer to 'Introducing Your New Cat to Other Pets' for more information).

We want your adoption to be successful! Please call us if you need suggestions or resources. Good luck and enjoy your new furry family member!