



# Congratulations

ON YOUR

# New Kitten

Below are some typical guidelines on vaccination and early care for your kitten. While it is not an all inclusive list it should get your kitten off to a healthy start. Please keep in mind that every kitten will be coming from a different, unique situation and so not all kittens will follow the same protocols. As always, please discuss your individual kitten's care with your veterinarian.

Core vaccinations:	Common abbreviation:	Interval/duration:
Rabies (required by state law)	RV	After 12 weeks of age/1 year immunity
Herpes/Calicivirus/Parainfluenza	FVRCP/HCP	Every 3-4 weeks from 8 to 16 weeks old/1 year immunity

\*FeLV vaccination - while it is recommended that every kitten receive FeLV vaccination we are unable to provide this particular vaccination due to low general demand for it. If desired, please seek this vaccine at another facility.

#### FeLV/FIV testing:

It is recommended that every kitten and newly introduced cat is tested for Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV). These viruses are infectious and may pose a risk to both your new kitten and existing cats within your household.



#### Deworming:

Gastrointestinal parasites are common in kittens and they can be infected from the environment and/or their mother. Given that most of the common intestinal parasites are not visible to the naked eye and not readily seen in the kitten's feces we recommend routinely deworming all kittens. There exist many different types of dewormers, specific to different worms or other parasites. Please discuss deworming and fecal testing for your kitten with your veterinarian.



#### Spay and neuter (a.k.a. "fixing/altering/castration/etc"):

There are many factors to consider when deciding what age your pet should be altered. Below are the general recommendations. Please discuss your specific pet with your veterinarian.

#### Male cats:

Typically between 5-6 months of age. Depending on the situation we may perform the procedure as early as 3 months (3 lbs).

#### Female cats:

Typically between 5-6 months of age. Depending on the situation we may perform the procedure as early as 3 months (3 lbs). It is recommended that all female cats are spayed prior to their first heat cycle to reduce the risk of developing mammary cancer.

While we do our best to cover all we can with you regarding your new kitten, there is often far too much information to go over during a regular appointment. We ask that as a responsible pet owner you take the time to seek out additional resources to answer any questions you may have and give your kitten the best opportunity for a healthy and happy life.

#### Additional resources:

The Humane Society of the United States  
[www.humanesociety.org](http://www.humanesociety.org)

American Animal Hospital Association  
[www.aaha.org](http://www.aaha.org)



# Congratulations

ON YOUR

# New Puppy

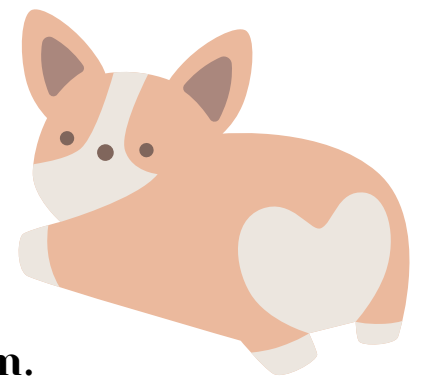
Below are some typical guidelines on vaccination and early care for your puppy. While it is not an all inclusive list, it should get your puppy off to a healthy start. Please keep in mind that every puppy will be coming from a different, unique situation and so not all puppies will follow the same protocols. As always, please discuss your individual puppy's care with your veterinarian.

Core vaccinations:	Common abbreviation:	Interval/duration:
Rabies (required by state law)	RV	After 12 weeks of age/1 year immunity
Distemper/Adenovirus/Parvo/Parainfluenza	DHPP/DAPP/DA2PP	Every 3-4 weeks from 8 to 16 weeks old/1 year immunity
Non-core/risk-based vaccinations:	Common abbreviation:	Interval/duration:
Bordetella	Kennel cough	Single dose/6 months to 1 year immunity
Lyme disease	Lyme	Initially two vaccines 3 weeks apart/1 year immunity
Leptosporosis	Lepto (Sometimes combined into distemper combo as DHLPP)	Initially two vaccines 3 weeks apart/1 year immunity
Canine Influenza	Canine Flu	Initially two vaccines 3 weeks apart/1 year immunity

## Heartworm Testing and Heartworm Preventative:

Puppies should be tested for heartworm at or after 6-7 months of age, regardless of whether they have been on regular monthly heartworm preventative. They will then need to be tested once per year thereafter to continue to be prescribed preventative.

Puppies can begin heartworm preventative as early as their first month of life, however many veterinarians will decide to delay starting preventative based on regional risk factors. Please discuss its use with your veterinarian.



## Deworming:

Gastrointestinal parasites are common in puppies and they can be infected from the environment and/or their mother. Given that most of the common intestinal parasites are not visible to the naked eye, and therefore not readily seen in the puppy's feces, we recommend routinely deworming all puppies. There exist many different types of dewormers, specific to different worms or other parasites. Please discuss deworming and fecal testing for your puppy with your veterinarian.

## Spay and neuter (a.k.a. "fixing/altering/castration/etc"):

There are many factors to consider when deciding what age your pet should be altered. Below are the general recommendations. Please discuss your specific pet with your veterinarian.

### Male dog neuter:

Small and medium breed dogs - 5-6 months of age

Large breed dogs - 12 months of age

### Female dog spay:

Small and medium breed dogs - 5-6 months of age

Large breed dogs - please discuss with your veterinarian; generally between 5-12 months of age.

While we do our best to cover all we can with you regarding your new puppy, there is often far too much information to go over during a regular appointment. We ask that as a responsible pet owner you take the time to seek out additional resources to answer any questions you may have and give your puppy the best opportunity for a healthy and happy life.

### Additional resources:

The Humane Society of the United States  
[www.humanesociety.org](http://www.humanesociety.org)

American Animal Hospital Association  
[www.aaha.org](http://www.aaha.org)