



Your New Kitten - FAQ

What Vaccinations are needed?

We recommend the following schedule for all kittens:

- 6-8 weeks: F3 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus.
Cost: \$97.10
- 12-14 weeks: F5 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus, Chlamydia, Feline Leukemia (F5) Cost: \$108.20
or with Feline AIDS(F6) Cost: \$143.10
- 16-18 weeks: F5 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus, Chlamydia, Feline Leukemia (F5) Cost \$ 108.20 or with FelineAIDS(F6) \$143.10

Feline AIDS is a debilitating disease similar to human AIDS and is primarily contracted via cat bite and scratch wounds. It is reported that between 9-26% of cats in Victoria have been infected with FIV. There is no treatment or cure but there is a vaccine available that can aid in the prevention of infection. We recommend this vaccine for any cat that may be allowed outside from time to time.

What worming do I need to do?

Worms living in your cat's intestine can deprive them of nutrients as well as causing vomiting and diarrhoea. Worm eggs are everywhere and kittens commonly get a worm infestation from their mothers shortly after birth. Regular worming with an effective "all wormer" will keep your kitten free of worms. We recommend "profender" which treats all worms of cats, including lungworm. "Profender" is applied topically to the skin behind the head and so is a very easy way to worm your cat. Milbemax tablet is also a good worming preparation. We advise the following worming schedule:

- every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age, then
- at 16 weeks of age, then
- every 3 months for life.

Profender Cost kittens: \$15.30

Milbemax Kitten: \$13.90





**MALVERN
VET
HOSPITAL**



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What flea prevention should I use?

We do not recommend bombarding young kittens with potentially toxic chemicals like flea rinses or washes. There are now very safe highly effective products perfect for treating fleas on young animals. "Bravecto" is the best product available as it kills adult flea as well as eggs and larvae as well as ticks and lasts for 3 months. It is applied as a spot of liquid to the back of the neck and comes in a pack of two – 6 months supply.

Bravecto spot-on Cost: \$93.50 – 6 month supply.

When do I get my cat de-sexed and what are the costs?

We recommend de-sexing to be done at 6 months of age. This is in line with current AVA recommendations. Malvern Vet has been re-awarded ASAVA (Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association) "Hospital of Excellence" Accreditation repeatedly since 1981- so you can be assured all surgeries are performed to the highest standards. All cats are placed on IV fluids to further improve the safety of the procedure, and receive pain relief medication before and during the procedure and are dispensed further pain medication to go home with. Cats can be taken home on the same day and need to be kept rested for the next 7- 10 days. Intra-dermal sutures are used which are dissolvable with no ties visible for pets to pull at and no need to be removed.

Males: \$223

Females: \$446

I have more questions which you have not covered here:

Please feel free to email any queries. If you would like more comprehensive information you can ask to be sent a free "kitten pack". If you would like to make a booking you can either head to our website to book online at www.malvernveter.com.au, or call us on **9509 7611**.



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Recommendations for the care of your new kitten

Feeding your kitten:

To ensure your kitten has the adequate building blocks needed for rapid growth a diet balanced in calcium, protein, energy, vitamins and minerals is essential. We recommend Hills Science Diet Kitten as it provides all these things and have additional nutrition for healthy teeth, joints and skin. Feeding small meals often to begin with is recommended:

- 4 times daily between the ages of 6 & 12 weeks
- 3 times daily between the ages of 3 & 6 months
- 2 times daily between the ages of 6 & 12 months

By one year your cat can convert to the Hills Science Diet Adult Cat and should be satisfied with 1 or 2 meals a day. Introducing raw chicken wings to chew once or twice a week will help minimize dental problems later in life.

Worming:

Worms living in your cat's intestine can deprive them of nutrients as well as causing vomiting and diarrhoea. Worm eggs are everywhere and kittens commonly get a worm infestation from their mothers shortly after birth. Regular worming with an effective "all wormer" will keep your kitten free of worms. We recommend "profender" which treats all worms of cats, including lungworm. "Profender" is applied topically to the skin behind the head and so is a very easy way to worm your cat. Milbemax tablet is also a good worming preparation. We advise the following worming schedule:

- every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age, then
- at 16 weeks of age, then
- every 3 months for life.

Flea control:

We do not recommend bombarding young kittens with potentially toxic chemicals like flea rinses or washes. There are now very safe highly effective products perfect for treating fleas on young animals. "Bravecto" is the best product available as it kills adult flea as well as eggs and larvae as well as ticks and lasts for 3 months. It is applied as a spot of liquid to the back of the neck and comes in a pack of two – 6 months supply.

Insurance:

We recommend insuring your cat from an early age before any inherent problems arise. Statistically, people are more likely to claim on pet insurance than car or household insurance. It is re-assuring to know that your pet can be given the very best in veterinary care without having to worry about the vet bills. Although we are unable to recommend one company, our staff can assist with information from "Petplan". Policies start from around \$170 pa (or \$15.80 per month).





Microchipping:

It is a good idea to get your kitten microchipped at the same time as desexing if they are not already. Whilst under anaesthetic they won't feel the pain of the large gauge needle used to insert the microchip. The microchips sit under the skin at the back of the neck. They are encoded with a bar code which is registered to a national data base for the life of your kitten. *Local councils require microchip implant for registration at 3 months of age. If you would like to delay this procedure until your kitten is under anaesthetic for desexing (at 6 months of age) ask us to issue you with a certificate of exemption.*

Vaccinations

Vaccines are used to introduce your kitten's immune system to potentially fatal diseases without making them sick, so they can build a natural defense. The main diseases which affect kittens are cat flu and feline enteritis. We recommend the following schedule for all kittens:

- 6-8 weeks: F3 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus.
- 12-14 weeks: F5 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus, Chlamydia, Feline Leukemia (F5) +/- Feline AIDS(F6)
- 16-18 weeks: F5 – Feline panleukopenia virus, feline herpes virus and feline calicivirus, Chlamydia, Feline Leukemia (F5), +/- Feline AIDS(F6)

Feline AIDS is a debilitating disease similar to human AIDS and is primarily contracted via cat bite and scratch wounds. It is reported that between 9-26% of cats in Victoria have been infected with FIV. There is no treatment or cure but there is a new vaccine available that can aid in the prevention of infection. All the above vaccines need to be boosted every 12 months for life. Kittens should stay indoors and away from strange cats until 7 days after the final vaccination. They can play with other kittens that you know are vaccinated. This is important for socialization.

Desexing

We advise that all cats should be desexed unless they are to be used for breeding. This not only reduces the social and environmental problems of wandering cats and unwanted litters but also helps to reduce behavioural problems such as aggression and urine spraying. Desexing is a day procedure performed under general anaesthetic. For boys, both testicles are removed and there are no stitches. They can go back to normal life the next day. For girls the ovaries and uterus are removed, which involves abdominal surgery and they have stitches for 10 days. Girl cats usually feel back to normal the next day but need to be kept indoors until the stitches are removed.

We recommend desexing at 5 to 6 months of age.

Boarding

The cages in our new cattery boast full ducted ventilation, multiple levels and each with separate "ensuite". Special "delux suite" also available. The cattery is open all year round and our guests are under constant veterinary supervision. Call on **95097611** or email us on askthetvet@malvern.com.au for any queries and availability





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