

Cat Fostering Guide

The Greater Derry Humane Society
Derry New Hampshire

Thank you for helping to save a cat or kitten's life and taking them into your home. Included in this guide are some basic factors that are important when fostering one of our cats and kittens.

Cats are very sensitive animals so give the foster cat up to five days to acclimate itself to new people and surroundings. It is best to put your foster cat in separate room with food, water and litter box for two or more days. All foster cats should be kept separate from other pets and children for four days. A slow introduction to other pets and other family members can start after that time. Dogs must be on a leash when they first meet your foster cat. It is best to foster cat in a separate area from your dog when you are not home.

Give your foster cat some space at first. In time they will come to you and others. It is not a good idea to pick the cat up for petting at first. Children should be supervised when interacting with the cat or kitten.

Your foster cat (as all cats should), must *only* be kept inside your home, ***never outdoors***. Please check window screens or other areas that might be loose or unstable, allowing the cat to escape.

We are entrusting you with the care of this cat or kitten and greatly appreciate your time and effort. Your foster cat ***cannot*** be transferred to any other person household *for any reason*. If you must leave for any period of time, please let us know so we can discuss arrangements.

All medical care will be supervised and paid for by the Greater Derry Humane Society. Other needed supplies will also be provided.

We prefer that cats get dry and wet food daily. For an adult cat $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of dry and 4 oz. of wet food is advised. If the cat needs to be on a specific diet (kittens), or due to sensitivity, that food that also will be provided and must be given to the cat.

Clean water should be available at all times.

The litter box for your foster cat should be scooped daily and placed away from a busy area.

If the cat or kittens require medications, please administer them as indicated and return any remaining meds to us for proper disposal.

If the cat or kitten shows any signs of discomfort or illness, you must contact your feline coordinator immediately to discuss whether the cat needs veterinary care at one of our assigned veterinarians. We will make arrangements to get the cat or kitten the needed veterinary care.

The following are indications that the foster cat is ill and you need to contact The Greater Derry Humane Society immediately.

1. Diarrhea for more than 24 hours. If constant, and has blood in it, call immediately.
2. Vomiting: It is not unusual for a cat to vomit occasionally. But if there is repeated vomiting within a few hours the cat will need to be seen by a veterinarian.
3. If the foster cat has sustained an injury of any kind you must contact us.
4. If the cat does not eat for 24 hours.
5. If your foster cat is not urinating, or is staining, or has blood in their urine.
6. Cats are often constipated. But if your foster cat does not have a bowel movement for 3 days contact us for further instruction.

7. If confused or having difficulty moving.

These are basic guidelines. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or questions.

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