

Welcoming your new rescue cat!

A guide to new cat ownership

Ninth Life Foundation are so incredibly happy you have chosen to share your home with one of our treasured rescue cats.

We care for every single cat like they are our very own with endless love and attention to detail so we want to provide you with a comprehensive guide to ensure you have all the tools needed for success!

The cat you have chosen to spend your life with will always be desexed, fully vaccinated, microchipped & flea/tick/worm treated.

We always ensure a full vet check is done before they are turned over to you and provide you with any relevant medical history.

No matter how big or small the query is, we will always be here to help you no matter what. Do not hesitate to email or call at any time as we always love to hear about how your feline is settling in. Please do share photos and videos with us too as it brings so much joy to our team to know our cats are enjoying their new life!



♥ WHAT DO YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR CAT FEEL RIGHT AT HOME? ♥

- Litter tray & litter
- Food & water bowls
- Selection of food! (We recommend Royal Canin)
- Comfy bed & blankets
- Toys (e.g. mouse)
- Scratching post
- Secure carry cage
- Brush
- Nail scissors
- Feliway diffuser or cat nip spray to create a relaxing environment

Preparation

Before the arrival of your new cat

Preparing for your new cat does not only involve the purchase of certain products and food. Your home has to also be set up to accommodate.

We recommend securing any potential parts of your home that a cat could escape to!

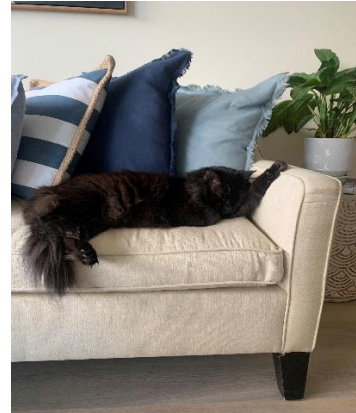
Cats like to feel safe and when they are moved to a new place they will look for somewhere to hide, such as a dark space or behind a cupboard.

By blocking off any small hidey holes this will prevent your cat from becoming trapped or able to escape. This includes securing windows, and fly screens and making sure doors to outside are always shut. By doing this and offering lots of patience and love you will set you & your new cat up for absolute success from the get-go!



Arrival

How to ensure a stress-free first night



Once all the preparation is done it is time to bring your cat home!

To make sure this is a stress-free process the best thing to do is keep your cat isolated to one room in the house at the beginning with food, bedding, water & litter tray. A good room to use for this would be a bathroom, laundry, or spare bedroom.

Be patient and wait for your cat to come out of the carrier in their own time. You can come in and out every few hours to check on their progress. Do not worry if they have not eaten or been to the bathroom within the first 24 hours as they are still getting used to their new environment!

Getting their bearings

Your cat is now settling into your home and is ready for a few new steps....

As your cat settles in they need your help to feel comfortable! Spend time patting them and just sitting with them to make them feel safe and welcome. Once they appear confident enough, you can introduce other rooms slowly. Never rush this part of the process as it is a very important step to a happy future! We advise all Ninth Life clients that our cats are to be kept indoors. This minimises any risks such as injury, fights, diseases and harming native wildlife. To have a happy indoor cat you can provide them with games, scratching posts, greenery, outdoor "runs" & windows to sit in!

Litter Box Success

Here are our tips for the best success in using litter trays. Our cats are accustomed to using a tray whilst in our care, but we have a few tips & tricks to ensure it is a happy transition to your environment!

- 1) Check the tray is the right size for your cat! E.g. if you have a larger cat, larger box is better so they can't miss the tray!
- 2) Try to use the same litter the cat is used to- we use breeders choice. If you need to change the type of litter, introduce the new litter into the old type so your cat will get used to it. You may need to try a few different litters until you find one your cat likes.
- 3) Remove all waste as soon as possible and at least once per day. Cats are very clean animals and prefer a fresh toilet!
- 4) Don't use strong detergents when cleaning the tray as this may deter your cat from using the tray or potentially harm them
- 5) Place the litter tray in a quiet spot as cats like their privacy when going to the toilet. Don't move the tray around or your cat may not be able to find it once in their routine.
- 6) Protect any house plants with pebbles or bark to prevent your cat from soiling the dirt.
- 7) Always praise your cat when they use the tray. This will make it a pleasant experience for the cat and promote tray use.



Feeding

Learning what food is best for your feline!



Ninth Life Foundation feed all of our cats Royal Canin Sensible unless we have advised your cat is on a prescription diet for health reasons.

Our feeding schedule is twice daily (am/pm). Outside of that you are welcome to win your new cat's affection with a snack or play a treat game!

Please always ensure you have multiple water bowls around your home so your cat has numerous drinking sources available.

Grooming

Cats are very clean animals and will generally like to attempt this themselves.

However, as we rescue old and high-care cats, they sometimes require your assistance with their daily cleaning routine- and this is a great way to bond!

Slow brushing and de-matting will keep your cat happy & healthy!

Disease prevention & health care

Your new cat has been vaccinated, flea & tick treated and checked over by a vet.

Over the life of your cat you will need to keep this routine up as follows.

- 1) Yearly vaccination & health check
- 2) Monthly or three-monthly flea & tick prevention e.g. Bravecto or Revolution Plus

When you adopt a cat from us we will always inform you of any pre-existing health conditions you need to be aware of and the best way to care for your cat moving forward.

Most importantly: Always keep your vet and an after-hours emergency vet's phone number & address on hand ready to go if you need assistance in regards to your cat in a hurry!

Registration & Microchip

At Ninth Life we send all paperwork to the council at the time of adoption. You will need to keep a record of this paperwork and ensure your personal details are always up to date on your cat's identification.

For e.g. if you change your address, mobile number, etc. you must also remember to do this for your cat!

Holidaying!

An important part of your adoption is thinking about what you will do with your cat while you are away! Never fear, we have you covered - Luxury Cat Lodge at Erina will always be here for your rescue cat and offer a lifetime discount of 15% on boarding stays with the owner and founder of Ninth Life Foundation - Jules Dos Santos!

