

Care Recommendations for Adult Cats

These suggestions will enable you to provide the best health care, allowing your cat to live as long as possible.

- **Annual physical examination**

A year between physical examinations for your cat is like four to seven years between examinations for us. All pets, even indoor ones, need exams at least once a year.

- **Nutrition**

Feed the highest quality food you can afford. Premium pet foods such as Science Diet® or Eukanuba® are much more digestible and result in a healthier pet with less stool volume. Pets who eat high quality food have lower risks for cancer, allergies, infectious diseases and skin problems. DO NOT feed table scraps and snacks.

- **Internal parasites . . .**

threaten your cat's health. In large numbers they can cause intestinal blockage, bloody diarrhea and even death. Certain types can also affect you and your family. Microscopic examination of your pet's stool needs to be done regularly. Almost all kittens are born with parasites and many harbor them into adulthood.

- **Provide a constant supply of fresh, clean water**

- **Vaccinations and boosters**

There is no safe, effective drug available to combat any of the major viral diseases of cats. Vaccination is the only effective form of protection. Vaccination enables your cat to fight infection by stimulating the immune system so it makes antibodies against the viruses.

To maintain this protection, cats must be vaccinated regularly so the level of immunity is always high enough to prevent disease.

YOUR PET'S APPROXIMATE AGE IN HUMAN YEARS

6 months =	12 years
1 year =	15 years
2 years =	24 years
3 years =	28 years
4 years =	32 years
5 years =	36 years
6 years =	40 years
7 years =	44 years
8 years =	48 years
9 years =	52 years
10 years =	56 years
11 years =	60 years
12 years =	64 years
13 years =	68 years
14 years =	72 years
15 years =	76 years
16 years =	80 years
17 years =	84 years
18 years =	88 years
19 years =	92 years
20 years =	96 years
21 years =	100 years

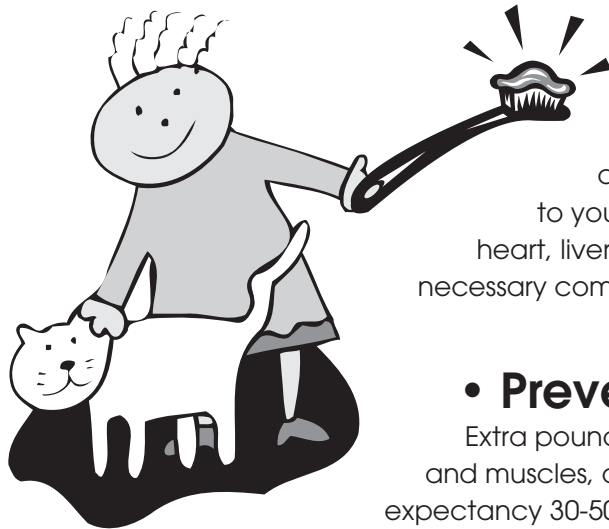
Feline Panleukopenia (Distemper) is a killer disease of cats. It is highly contagious and easily transmitted from cat to cat. Nine of ten cats with distemper will usually die.

Feline Respiratory Diseases affect cats of all ages and cause great suffering. Chances are high that your cat will be exposed. Indoor cats become ill with upper respiratory diseases almost as often as outdoor ones.

Feline Leukemia (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) are incurable, contagious from cat to cat, and usually fatal. These viruses destroy the cat's ability to fight off infections of any sort and can also cause cancer and anemia.

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is a viral disease that is also incurable and always fatal.

Rabies is a fatal infection of the nervous system that attacks all warm-blooded animals including humans. There is no cure. Rabies has been on the rise in cats for the past twenty years. All cats should be vaccinated for Rabies.

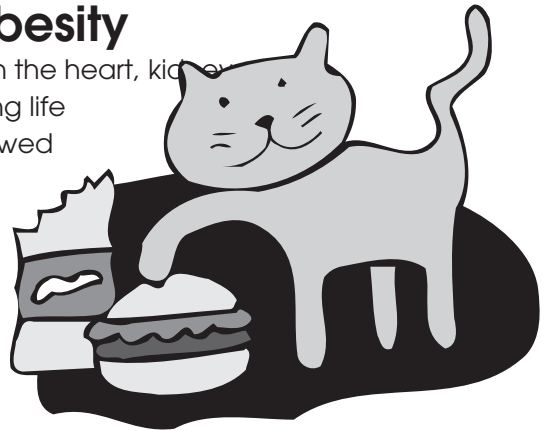


• Dental care . . .

is just as important for your pet as it is for you. The average lifespan of a cat that receives timely dental care is 15-20% longer than one that doesn't. Infected teeth and gums are very painful to your cat, and also spread infection to the kidneys, heart, liver and elsewhere. Dental cleanings are a necessary component of a long, happy life for your pet.

• Prevent obesity

Extra pounds burden the heart, kidneys and muscles, decreasing life expectancy 30-50%. If allowed to eat all they want to, most cats will become overweight or obese.



• Brush your cat regularly . . .

to prevent mats and tangles. After brushing, wipe off loose hair with a damp towel. This is especially helpful if members of your household are allergic to cats. It also helps to prevent hairballs in your cat.

Keep an eye out for fleas, dandruff, sores or bald spots. Report any skin problems to your veterinarian.



