

New Kitten Checklist

A simple guide to prepare your home for your new kitten's arrival — covering day-one supplies, safety, vet visits, and early bonding.

Day-One Essentials

- 1 ■ Breakaway collar + ID tag
- 2 ■ Carrier (secure, ventilated)
- 3 ■ Litter box + scoop
- 4 ■ Clumping, unscented litter
- 5 ■ Kitten food (vet-approved)
- 6 ■ Food & water bowls (ceramic/stainless)
- 7 ■ Soft bed or blanket
- 8 ■ Kitten-safe toys (wand, balls)
- 9 ■ Scratching post or cardboard scratcher
- 10 ■ Enzyme cleaner for accidents

Health & Safety

- 1 ■ First vet visit (within 3–7 days)
- 2 ■ Vaccination plan & records
- 3 ■ Microchip registration info
- 4 ■ Flea/tick prevention (per vet)
- 5 ■ Brush/comb for kitten coat
- 6 ■ Kitten-safe nail trimmer
- 7 ■ Toothbrush & feline toothpaste
- 8 ■ Pet insurance quote/policy (optional)
- 9 ■ Emergency vet & poison control numbers

Home Setup

- 1 ■ Safe room for first days (quiet, secure)
- 2 ■ Remove toxic plants & tiny objects
- 3 ■ Block access to cords & open windows
- 4 ■ Separate feeding & litter areas
- 5 ■ Introduce scratching post early
- 6 ■ Rotate toys for enrichment

Training & Socialization

- 1 ■ Litter box introduction (place kitten inside)
- 2 ■ Name recognition with treats
- 3 ■ Short play sessions (2–3×/day)
- 4 ■ Gentle handling (paws, ears, mouth)
- 5 ■ Controlled introductions to family/pets
- 6 ■ Reward calm exploration

Nice-to-Have Extras

- 1 ■ Cat tree / climbing shelves
- 2 ■ Window perch for entertainment
- 3 ■ Water fountain (encourages hydration)
- 4 ■ Interactive puzzle toys
- 5 ■ Kitten shampoo & grooming wipes

First-Week Timeline

- 1 ■ Day 0–1: Quiet settling-in, explore safe room, litter box intro.
- 2 ■ Day 2–3: Vet visit scheduled, introduce toys, short play sessions.
- 3 ■ Day 4–5: Begin gentle handling, name games, reward calm behavior.
- 4 ■ Day 6–7: Gradual room access, supervised intro to other pets, reinforce litter training.