

# Fairysnow Bengals Kitten Settling In Instructions



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## **The Best Way to Introduce Your New Kitten or Cat to Your Home**

Adding a new kitten or cat to your home can be a very rewarding or a very frustrating experience. It all depends upon how well you plan ahead for the new member of your family.

Before you bring your new kitten home be certain you have:  
Purchased the same type of food the kitten is used to eating so you won't upset its stomach by changing diet suddenly. Your kitten will come to you with some sample food that will last a day or two.

Have a clean litter box ready, this should be an open litter tray without litter liners or a covered tray without a cat flap (preferably both). You will be given a 10 litre bag of Breeders Celect cat litter, this is a paper pellet litter and more can be purchased from myself in 30litre bags or it is available in pet shops or online at Amazon.

It is advisable to have more than one litter tray.

Make sure you have the same food in stock as I have been feeding as a change in the diet can lead to an upset stomach. This is the Purrform Frozen Food, and the Orijen dry, but double check with me for what your kitten likes best before they come home.

Have a cosy, soft bed. Kittens love the dome shaped beds, like an igloo, these provide comfort and the kitten can feel secure and hide a little whilst getting used to his or her new space. Also, during the day, I always have a radio/music playing, so pop the radio on.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A QUIET SMALL ROOM SET ASIDE FOR YOUR KITTEN TO STAY IN UNTIL HE/SHE**

BECOMES COMFORTABLE WITH YOU AND IS EATING WELL. DO NOT KEEP CHANGING YOUR KITTENS ROOM, CHOOSE A ROOM SUCH AS A UTILITY ROOM, DOWNSTAIRS LOO OR SIMILAR, A FLOOR WITH A HARD SURFACE RATHER THAN CARPET WOULD BE BEST (make sure you close the loo lid if you use the bathroom!)

### **WHY A SMALL ROOM?**

Well, imagine that you have always lived in the same place and have NEVER left there. You know your litter mates, your mother, and your people. You also know exactly where to find your food, fresh water and your litter box.

NOW, imagine strange people come and take you away from everything you have ever known and drop you into the middle of a big strange house. Wouldn't you be a little afraid? Would you automatically know where to find your food and water AND your litter box? Of course not! You might run and hide under the furniture or in a dangerous location like behind the fridge or under a tight cupboard. Then the new people yell for you to get out from under the couch and reach for you and drag you out. You might get scared and scratch them.

NOW imagine being placed in a small quiet room with food you are used to, fresh water and a litter box all easy to find. You are given time to quietly explore your new space. And you soon see that these new people mean you no harm, because every time they come and see you they sit quietly and talk to you sweetly, pet you and play with you with the cat dancer toy that you are used to. In a day, or maybe even less, you are ready for them to leave the door open so you can start to explore the rest of the house at your own pace.

If your kitten cries when left alone and comes running to you when you come to visit, he or she is ready to be allowed to explore the rest of the house.

## **IF YOU HAVE OTHER CATS AND/OR DOGS.**

You will also need to plan for a slow introduction of your new kitten. PLEASE keep your new kitten away from all of your other pets for at least a week, until he or she is fully settled and confident in their new home. It also allows your other pets to begin to get used to the smell of the new kitten. Your other pets will sniff around the door of the room housing your new kitten and you will have its scent on your clothes.

**DO NOT** force the animals together. Do your best to monitor their interactions. If things get too rough, separate the kitten back into its room. Do not leave your new kitten alone with other pets until you are absolutely sure that they will get along. Do not leave a small kitten alone with even the sweetest big dog. Accidents can and will happen. When you leave the house, put the kitten back in its room.

**IF YOU FOLLOW THESE FEW SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS, YOU WILL FIND BRINGING A NEW KITTEN INTO YOUR HOME WILL GO EASILY AND SAFELY.**

So, to sum it up, here is a list of do's and don'ts

### **DO'S**

- **Do** - Be calm and quiet when you bring your kitten into your home and pop a radio on or some music to hide unfamiliar noises.
- **Do** - Place the carrier on the floor and let your kitten come out on his/her own.
- **Do** - Encourage your kitten to come out of the carrier for the first time by gently coaxing him/her out with a teaser-toy - The cat dancer toy I've given you would be good for this.
- **Do** - Keep your kitten in a small room when he or she first arrives. A small area is kitten-size. It will help him or her to more readily "get the lay of the land." After a day or two, allow him/her a little more run of the house. Too

much run of the house at once can cause them to lose their litter tray.

- **Do** - Sit on the floor at your kitten's level to play and socialise.
- **Do** - Place your kitten in the litter box several times during the first few of days after arrival.
- **Do** - It is a good idea to have more than one litter tray and they are best placed in corners. Do NOT use litter liners or different litter other than the Breeders Celect (paper pellets). Always put litter trays back in the same place. If using a covered litter tray, ensure to take the cat flap off first.
  
- **Do** - Introduce your kitten slowly to other pets. If the kitten is exposed to other pets before a bond is formed with it's human family, it is possible that the kitten will to bond as closely with your family.
- **Do** - Make sure your kitten knows where his or her food and water is kept and check to see he/she is eating and drinking enough.
- **Do** - A 30 minute timeout in a small room, such as a bathroom, may be required several times a day to force your kitten to stop playing long enough to eat and drink.
- **Do** - Use breeder celect pellet cat litter for the first few weeks after getting your kitten home. This is what we use and what the kittens are used to.
- **Do** - Check your house for potentially lethal flowers/plants that are toxic to cats and kittens. Lillies are especially toxic!

## TOTALLY AVOID!

- **Do Not** - Give your kitten full run of the house immediately.
- **Do Not** - Move the litter box for the first couple of weeks: it will confuse your kitten. When/if you find it necessary to move it, place your kitten in it several times to establish its location. Please don't use litter liners. Enclosed litter trays are fine, but ensure you remove the cat flap at the front.

- **Do Not -** Introduce too many people to your kitten at first. It can overwhelm your baby. After he/she is comfortable and confident in your home, gradually introduce new people.

## SO PLEASE CONSIDER FOLLOWING THESE IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS

### FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

The main diet is Purrform, this is a frozen food that you simply defrost and feed, I will send you a discount code for 10% off the 450g tubs. I also give them the option to graze on Orijen kitten dried food and also Royal Canin Mother and Babycat, you will received your free samples of that through Royal Canin and in your kitten pack to come home. They are fed up to three times a day, along with just water to drink.

Kittens cannot tolerate lactose so please do not to give them cows/ goats milk, please do not allow your kitten to eat dog food or table scraps. These foods can upset their digestive system and can cause diarrhea . It is recommended that you feed your kitten the same diet that it is used to but you can change it and if you wish to do so please do it gradually to avoid upsetting their digestive systems.

### WORMING

Your kitten has been wormed at 6, 9 and 12 weeks of age using Panacur and Advocate small small cat applied to the back of his or her neck prior to coming home to you. Advocate treat for internal and external parasites, so please do not treat your kitten for anything for a month. It is recommended that you worm your kitten at least every 3

months as a preventative measure, or use the prescription monthly topical solution like Stronghold or Advocate

### VACCINATIONS

Your kitten has been fully vaccinated (except leukaemia). I find this a very harsh vaccine at such a young age and it can make them quite poorly. You would only need the Feline Leukaemia vaccine if you are planning to let your kitten out unattended. If so, tie this vaccine in when you get your kitten spayed or neutered when they are about 5 months old. Annual vaccinations are recommended.

### INSURANCE

Pet kittens come with 4 weeks free Pet Plan insurance and breeding kittens come with 5 weeks Agria insurance. It is highly recommended that you try to continue the insurance without a break, to cover any unforeseen medical problems and also the value of your kitten for your own peace of mind. Veterinary bills can be very expensive.

### LITTER TRAINING

Your kitten has been litter trained and is used to the pellet cat litter. This can be purchased in pet shops or supermarkets. When you take your kitten home for the first time, you are advised to restrict him/her to the one room with a litter box and his/her food until he/she becomes orientated to the environment. When the kitten is allowed the freedom of the house it is very important to provide enough litter boxes placed in various locations around the house to avoid accidents. Kittens have a keen sense of smell and once an area is soiled they will usually return to it. He/she has been used to having several litter boxes to choose from and knew exactly where they were, they will need time to learn where their new litter boxes are in their new homes. It is also best not to move them around as the kitten may become confused.

## TOYS AND PLAYING

Your kitten will need lots of toys to keep him or her occupied. Try not to buy toys with bits that come loose and can be swallowed. Avoid playing with cotton thread and wool if the kitten is unsupervised as these can be easily swallowed and can cause serious problems.

### GENERAL

Kittens love compost/peat and soil around houseplants, to avoid the use of these as litter boxes a good deterrent is to cover the exposed soil with large decorative pebbles. Be advised that some houseplants if eaten or chewed are poisonous to animals. Also be aware of household detergents. These can be harmful to animals if ingested.

He/she will love to explore and get into things. Please ensure your home is kitten friendly. Plug up all the small holes that they can get into and under (behind the fridge/freezer, under the kitchen cabinets, up the chimney). Kittens- especially Bengals, are very playful and energetic, please remove any ornaments, plants etc that you may be worried about. Also beware of kittens lurking on the stairs and underfoot. Always shut the bathroom door and make sure the toilet lid is down. Bengal kittens love water and might be tempted to jump in and then the possibility of drowning could happen.

Scratch posts and climbing frames are wonderful for cats and kittens to play on, they may save your furniture and your wallpaper. Keeping nails clipped short will help prevent scratches to yourself and your possessions, I will have cut your babies nails before they come home. You should be mindful that the stress of re-homing the kitten may result in temporary signs of illness which may include sneezing, runny nose, watery eyes, diarrhoea, and/or constipation. To help reduce signs of stress, you should try to feed the kitten the identical food as we have, slowly introduce the cat/kitten to the house and to



other members of the household, as well as limiting the time the kitten maybe with strangers, children or other animals.

## Neutering/Spay

This should be done when your kitten is about 5 months old, at that age, your kitten will have matured enough yet not had hormones through. For female kittens ask for a side spay with dissolvable stitches, this is the least intrusive for a female. Also ensure that your vet **DOESN'T use Ketamine**, Bengals have been known to have extremely bad reactions to Ketamine that can be fatal. You can get post operative onesie's which most cats prefer over a cone on the head.

I hope that this advice sheet will be of help to you and that you and your kitten will have a long and happy life together. Please contact me if you need any further help or advice.



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