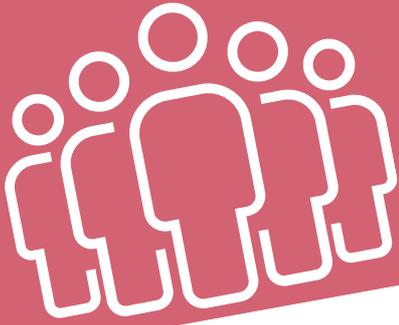


ALL KIND *to* SAVE

All Kind

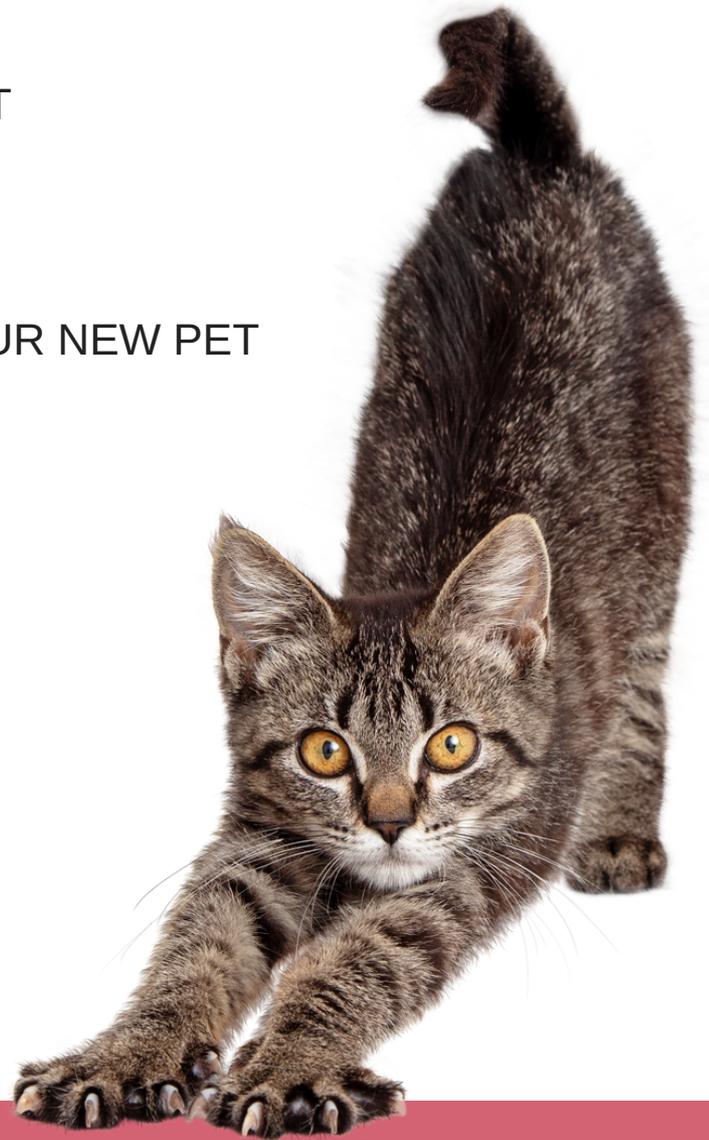


All Kind
ANIMAL INITIATIVE

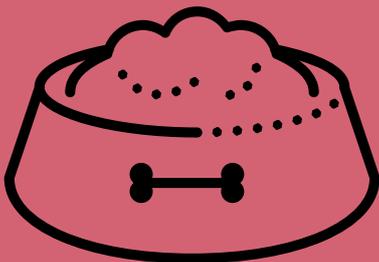
CAT ADOPTION GUIDE

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Our Mission



All Kind is a non-profit organization that seeks to improve animal welfare in the city of Abilene by building a new animal shelter facility, decreasing homeless pet overpopulation through accessible spay/neuter programs, increasing pet retention through expanded foster programming and adoption events, and offering greater education and resources through community outreach.

SO YOU WANT TO ADOPT?

There are millions of homeless pets with one thing in common- they are dreaming of a future where someone special sees their potential and commits to helping them achieve it. They dream of a better tomorrow where they can live the rest of their life in a forever home, sharing a lifelong bond with someone special. Could that special someone be you?

It certainly could be! Adopting a pet is a big decision, though, and one that should not be taken lightly. So let's scratch the surface (pun intended) to see if you have what it takes to be a successful pet parent to a cat in need.



CAT ADOPTION GUIDE

KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION

It's really as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1.

Prepare... yourself, your family, and your home

- *Yourself:* Do you really want to adopt a cat or kitten? Is now the right time to adopt? Are you committed to putting in the time needed to make the transition to a life with a new cat or kitten as smooth as possible? Are you able to financially support the needs of your new pet?
- *Your family:* Have you agreed on the “house rules” such as whether your cat will be allowed on your kitchen counters? Who will be responsible for feeding, watering, and cleaning your new furry friend’s litter box? Do your children understand how to safely interact with a cat? Does anyone have allergies? Do you have any other pets that you will need to socialize with your new cat or kitten?
- *Your home:* Take the time to kitten-proof your home. Do you have any poisonous plants such as lilies in your home? Where is the best place to put a litter box? Do you have any valuables that could be knocked over by a pouncing kitten? Purchase supplies ahead of time to make bringing your new kitty home easier.

2.

Manage expectations

- Do you know about the Rule of Threes?
 - It takes a rescued pet 3 days to decompress while they are getting used to their new unfamiliar surroundings (no matter how much better their circumstances are now, change is scary), new people, new smells, new sights, and new sounds. During this time, some pets may be perfectly content, however others may not want to eat or drink, they may want to hide or run away from you, they might test boundaries, they may not play with toys... they may not be their true self quite yet. This is completely normal- give them the time and space they need to begin feeling secure enough to be themselves. It is a good idea to confine your cat to one room or area of the house for the first few days to weeks (depending on how quickly your new feline companion acclimates.) This will not only minimize stress, but also allow you to monitor its eating and drinking and enable your cat to get used to using its litter box and scratching post with minimal distractions.
 - It takes a rescued pet 3 weeks to figure out their new environment and (with your help) get into a routine. At this point they will feel more comfortable and begin to understand that they are possibly in their forever home, so you may start to see different parts of their personality as they begin to let their guard down. During this time, you can take items such as their litter box, scratching post and bed from the room they were initially confined in and place them around the house so that they will have familiar sights and smells as they expand their horizons.
 - It takes a rescued pet 3 months to trust you and feel completely comfortable in their new forever home. They should be settled into the routine you established for them and have gained a level of confidence based on the sense of security you have provided for them. From here on out, you'll continue building an unbreakable bond with your new best friend!

3.

Put in the work... and patience... and LOVE

- Be consistent with the house rules. Nothing causes confusion for your new pet more than allowing them on the kitchen counters the first week when the experience is new and then shooing them from the counters the following week. Think through what kind of relationship you want to have with your new cat and consistently show them that they can trust you. Be patient, give them an outlet for their energy, and ask for help if needed. There are a lot of resources out there to assist you with the transition into pet parenting a rescued pet. Remember, your cat has boundless potential and deserves to be loved!

FINDING THE RIGHT PET

It's easy to look at a photo on a website and see an adorable furry face looking back at you or to look into the pleading eyes of a cat at the local shelter and think, "That is the cat for me!" It's important to remember, though, no matter how cute a kitten or cat is or how guilty you may feel seeing them at the shelter, the key to a successful adoption is finding the right pet for your life.

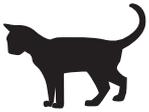
Here are a few questions to consider:

- ***Are you an experienced pet parent or is this your first time choosing to share your life with a cat?***
 - Do your research on the breed, ask the foster parent or shelter questions, and don't take on more than you can handle- no matter how adorable that kitten is! Watch online videos, read articles, and ask other pet parents with similar breeds questions. Every cat breed has a different personality! Russian Blues are a little more shy, while Maine Coon cats are more social and enjoy snuggling. Siamese tend to be vocal and mischievous, whereas Domestic Shorthairs' personalities can be as varied as their coat colors and markings.
 - Make an informed, not emotional, decision so that you can set yourself up for success to share an amazing journey with your new pet.
- ***Are you up for the boundless energy of a kitten or do you prefer an older cat who is content sleeping the day away?***
- ***Do you have the time and/or financial resources to groom your pet?***
 - Certain breeds require more brushing than others. If you cannot commit the time to daily brushings or resources to have your pet professionally groomed, a shorthair cat will have fewer grooming requirements.
 - Brushing your cat is a terrific time to bond with them. This can take place while you are watching your favorite TV show or talking on the phone to a friend- they just need to take place! Remember, this is not just about looking good, it's about feeling good as well! If grooming needs are neglected, your pet could develop painful mats and bacteria that accumulates under the mats.
- ***Do you have children or other pets?***
 - Ask about the background of the pet you choose to see if they are good with children, get along with other cats and dogs or if they will require a home without children and/or other pets.
 - Do a meet and greet to make certain everyone can coexist in your home. Never force the issue or tell yourself that it will get better with time or once you are home. The best thing you can do for a pet that will not fit into your household is to spread the word to others to help him/her find the right home.

Okay, so you've done your homework, had a meet and greet that gave you all the feels and found the right pet for your life... CONGRATULATIONS! This is a very exciting time, so post the pics, call your best friend, jump up and down a few times... now let's get back to it- there is still a lot to do to prepare for your newest family member!

ALL THE RIGHT STUFF

With so many options to choose from, it can be overwhelming when shopping for a new pet. Have no fear- we're here to help! It's important to remember that there are the basics, as well as additional products to help keep your new furry friend safe and healthy as well as physically and mentally stimulated. Let's take a closer look!



Pet

Collar
Pet ID Tag
Cat Carrier
Food
Variety of Treats
Variety of Toys



Home

Litter Box
Litter
Litter Scoop
Water Dish
Food Dish
Scratching Post
Cat Tree



Grooming

Brush
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Nail Clippers
Styptic Powder
Grooming Wipes
Ear Cleaner or Wipes

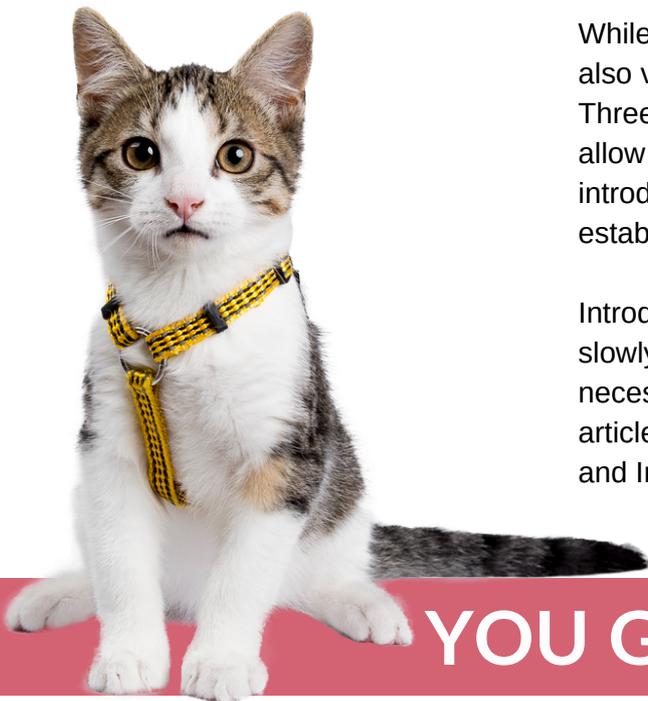


Health

Flea & Tick Preventative
Vaccines



WELCOMING HOME YOUR NEW PET



While this is a very exciting time for your new companion, it is also very overwhelming for him/her. Remember the Rule of Threes? Try to keep things very low-key for the first few days- allow them time to explore their new environment, do not introduce a lot of new people from outside of the home, begin to establish a routine, and above all else, love them!

Introducing your new pet to other pets or children should be done slowly. Always be there to supervise and be ready to intervene if necessary. Visit the Resource Center on petco.com for great articles including Six Ways to Make Your New Cat Feel at Home and Introducing Dogs to New Cats.

YOU GOT THIS!

If times get catty, don't give up- we're here to help! Reach out to us... just try not to get frustrated and certainly, don't give up! Everything worth having takes time and work. Focus on getting through the hour, day, week... It will be worth it- you will soon find yourself depending on your cat's companionship just as much as he depends on you. You will help each other through whatever rough patches you both encounter, and your cat will know it has truly found his forever home.

*Continue
making a
difference ...*



CAT ADOPTION GUIDE

HAPPILY EVER AFTER

By adopting a cat, you have made a tremendous difference in the life of your cat! But did you know that you can make an even bigger difference in the lives of many deserving pets in the Abilene community? Spread the word about adopting, share your story through social media, and consider fostering a pet to save a life. Their happily ever after depends on caring individuals like you!

RESOURCES



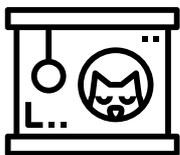
Pet Stores			
Pam's Pets & Fish 3366 N. First St Abilene, TX 79603 (325) 675-6285	Petco 3542 S. Clack St Abilene, TX 79606 (325) 271-6949	Petsmart 3501 Catclaw Dr Abilene, TX 79606 (325) 692-9411	Pet Supplies Plus 3950 S Clack St Abilene, TX 79606



Veterinarians			
Big Country Vet Clinic 2426 Industrial Blvd Abilene, TX 79605 (325) 692-2625	Brookhollow Animal Clinic 2641 Post Oak Rd Abilene, TX 79605 (325) 698-7281	Buffalo Gap Animal Clinic 4522 Buffalo Gap Rd Abilene, TX 79606 (325) 793-1011	Dearing Veterinary Clinic 1133 Buffalo Gap Rd Abilene, TX 79606 (325) 698-3090
Frontier Veterinary Clinic 3401 S Treadaway Blvd Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 698-4900	Judge Ely Animal Hospital 1126 Tracy Lynn Dr Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 672-1666	Key City Veterinary Clinic 318 E S 11 th St Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 672-7801	



Pet Grooming			
Big Country Vet Clinic 2426 Industrial Blvd Abilene, TX 79605 (325) 692-2625	Frontier Veterinary Clinic 3401 S Treadaway Blvd Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 698-4900	Petsmart 3501 Catclaw Dr Abilene, TX 79606 (325) 692-9411	



Pet Boarding			
Big Country Vet Clinic 2426 Industrial Blvd Abilene, TX 79605 (325) 692-2625	Diamonds <u>In</u> The Ruff 1101 Palm St Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 695-2931	Frontier Veterinary Clinic 3401 S Treadaway Blvd Abilene, TX 79602 (325) 698-4900	

