



Selecting the right kitten/cat for your family

Bringing a cat into your family can bring you many years of joy. Factors need to be considered to help you make the right choice.



	Pros	Cons
Kittens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cute new member of your family Often adapt to your family, including any pets and children you may have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be mischievous until about 9 months Additional expenses; initial vaccinations, micro-chipping, neutering More time required - under 12 weeks old need feeding four times a day and handling frequently
Adult cats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial expenses not needed if already neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped Usually passed the mischievous phase Can often choose a cat to suit your home, eg some are used to children and other pets. Also, the personality will have developed, eg from a friendly, playful lap cat to one more suited to a quieter home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May take longer to trust their new environment which, will require patience initially

Caring for your new family member

Your new arrival will need time and patience to settle into it's new environment. Kittens can sometimes adapt more quickly, but do need handling regularly, and stroked gently every day to socialise them, and allow them to trust you and your family.



Micro-chipping

A micro-chip is a tiny, glass capsule the size of a grain of rice containing an identification number linked to your pet.

If your cat wanders/gets lost, a micro-chip will give them the best chance of being reunited with you.

It takes just a few moments to insert under the skin, relatively painlessly between the shoulder blades.



Vaccinations

Routine vaccination has greatly reduced the extent of several feline diseases (including some that can prove fatal). Cats are commonly vaccinated against:

- * Cat flu
- * Feline infectious enteritis
- * Feline leukaemia virus

Also, catteries and pet insurance companies require the cat to be fully vaccinated.

Age of kitten/cat	Task
9 weeks	First vaccination and health check
12 weeks	Second vaccination
Every month until 6 months, then every 3 months	Worming
Around 12 weeks old, at same time as second vaccination	Micro-chipping
If fleas are evident or when ready to go outside	Flea treatment
5-6 months	Neutering
Annually from first vaccination	Booster vaccinations

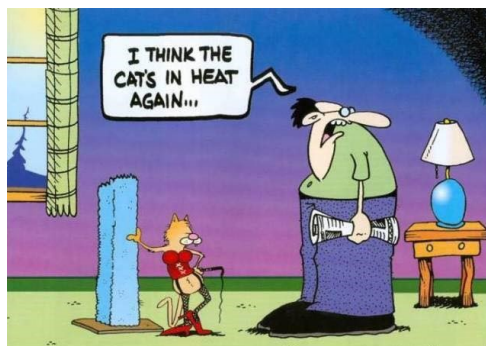
Why Neuter?

Cats are prolific breeders, one unneutered female cat;

Can be responsible for producing 20,000 descendants in just five years.

Can produce 18 kittens a year.

Cats should be neutered at 5-6 months of age.



Reasons to neuter female cats

- * Regularly in heat, and extremely fertile meaning several litters a year
- * Cat population is grossly overpopulated
- * Difficult to rehome unwanted cats

Reasons to neuter male cats

- * Stops spraying around the home (the younger the better so doesn't become a habit)
- * Reduces fighting, leading to wounds/infections and spreading of diseases
- * Reduces wandering

About us

Blackburn Cat Rescue is a small charity helping to re-home abandoned cats and kittens in and around the Blackburn area.

All potential owners are home checked, and if coming directly from us (not always with Home to Home) your new family member will arrive fully vaccinated, neutered and micro-chipped.

This may not apply to kittens that are not old enough. Kittens will have been wormed and checked/treated for fleas.

We request a minimum donation, and are always here for any advice on settling your new friend into his/her new home.

Unfortunately we are presently unable to take any more cats and kittens into our care.

If you can help with a donation, you can donate Via PayPal using bbcatrescue@gmail.com where every penny will go towards looking after the cats in our care.

We are also grateful for any donations of food, litter, scratch posts, cat activity centres etc. Please call the number on the front of this leaflet to arrange.

We also have food donation drop off points in store at Morrisons, Blackburn and Booths, Clitheroe.

Thank you.



Blackburn Cat Rescue



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Many cats and kittens urgently awaiting GOOD HOMES

Some as pets and others suitable for farms, stables etc

All adult cats are neutered