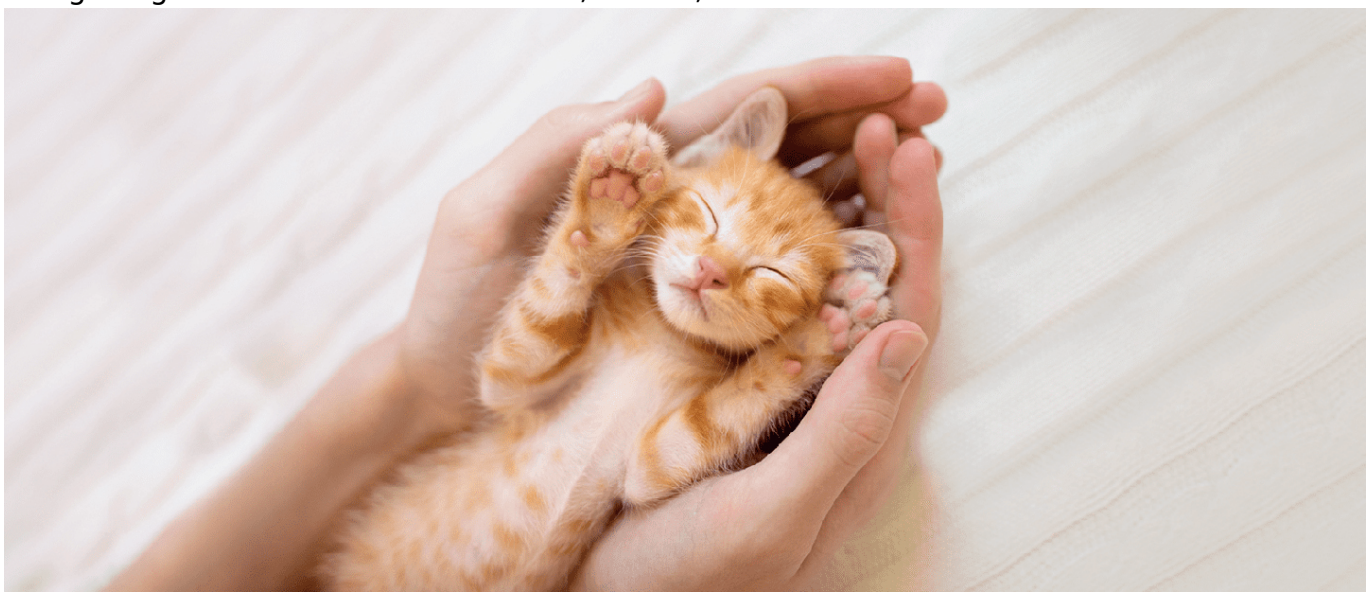
Things to get for new cat: cat litter box, carrier, bed&more



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Have you already found a feline bundle of joy to share your life with? Are you about to bring your new kitty home? You must ensure that your home is ready to welcome your furball. If possible, arrange for a few play dates with the kitty before you bring them in, to prepare for a new kitten, make them feel comfortable in your company and recognise your smell. Taking this step will ensure that your fur baby can transition easily from their current place of residence to the forever one.

You also have to arrange for essential supplies to prepare for a new kitten so that they feel comfortable from the moment they enter their new home. If you are a new cat parent, here we will list down a few items to prepare for a new kitten that you need to arrange for your new furry feline friend to make them feel immediately at ease in their new home:

Cat Litter Box

Litter boxes come in several varieties. You can choose a plain plastic cat litter box with litter for cats inside. It is a simple, inexpensive option preferred by many cat parents but it requires some maintenance. There is also the self-cleaning litter box which can rake the litter after your furry friend has used the box. This entices many cat parents but these

boxes can be quite expensive and your furball may be frightened by the raking mechanism. A hooded cat litter box has a tall cover that allows your munchkin privacy. These boxes also prevent the litter for cats from dropping onto the floor. But the flip side is that many of our feline friends may be scared and refuse to use a covered litter box.

Cat Bed

Our furry friends are famous for napping all day and a cat bed is likely to be their favourite dozing zone. Remember to keep the cat bed in a space where your furball feels comfortable and safe. Besides, a cat bed should always be dry, soft, and warm. You may want to choose a cat bed with a washable cover for long usage. Also, try to go for a cat bed that allows your fur baby the space to stretch out before or after they sleep and is also snuggly enough for them to curl up in a ball and feel safe. You can buy cat hammocks as well.

Cat Carrier

A cat carrier or cat cradle is the most important thing you need to arrange for as you will have to carry your new friend home in it. A cat carrier must be strong and safe and must be well-ventilated. Your little munchkin should be able to get in or out of it easily and should not feel threatened inside it. You should avoid cardboard options as they do not allow enough ventilation and a scared cat may claw through them. The best option is usually a sturdy plastic carrier with a locking door. Line the floor of your fur kiddo’s cradle with a soft, warm cloth so that they feel extra comfortable as they travel to their forever home.

Cat Water Fountain

Kitties are renowned for their aversion to water. If your fur baby doesn’t drink enough water, only wet food cannot meet its hydration requirements. Dehydration causes several health problems in furries including loss of appetite and lethargy. One possible reason for your kitty’s aversion to the water bowl may be their preference for running water. This is where a cat water fountain comes in handy! If your cat is one of the many who prefer fresh running water, there is a high chance that your munchkin will love a cat water fountain and you do not have to worry about them being dehydrated. Besides, you can rest easy knowing that your precious darling has access to clean and filtered water at all times.

Cat Bowl

Any stainless-steel or ceramic bowl (without lead glaze) you have in your kitchen can serve as a cat bowl. However, it is better to provide your little friend with a bowl made especially for them. You will find several options of non-tip stainless steel cat bowl available in the market. Do not opt for plastic bowls as your kitty may contract a chin rash from it. If you wish to treat your furry darling to a specially decorated ceramic bowl, ensure that its glaze does not contain lead. Automatic food bowls are also a great option if you tend to be away for the major part of the day but don’t prefer free feeding.

Cat Toys

Kitties love to gambol around and play. Hence, they should be provided with several safe toys to keep them occupied. Pouncing is a favourite activity of adorable feline furries. Catnip-filled toy fish, mice, or balls, therefore, make excellent toys for them. It is normal for

you to get excited whenever you see a new toy for your cat but you must examine the toy carefully before gifting it to your little feline munchkin. Make sure it is made from non-toxic material and has no small detachable parts like pom-poms, feathers, or bells that your cat may ingest or choke on.

Collar & ID Tag

Make sure that your kitty wears a collar with an ID tag at all times as it will ensure that you can find your fur baby easily in case, they get lost. The tag should contain information such as your name, address, and phone number. Opt for a collar with an automatic release so that the kitty does not get stuck on anything. You should also buy a collar with a proper fit such that it does not scratch or damage your little munchkin's neck and allows them to breathe and swallow easily. One easy way to ensure this is to check whether there is space for two fingers between the kitty's neck and collar.

Scratching Post

Scratching is a favourite activity of felines as it keeps their claws sharp and helps them to mark their territories as well. As cats will scratch whatever they can get their claws on, it is important to teach your kitty to scratch only on a scratching post. Purchase a scratching post with a strong, heavy base so that it does not fall over easily. The scratching post should ideally be as tall as your fur kiddo to allow them a good stretch while standing on their hind legs. If you have more than one cat at home, each kitty should have a separate scratching post.

Cat Brush

A cat brush is a must-have grooming essential for your little furry friend. You need to regularly brush your kitty for loose hair, to decrease shedding, and to keep their fur from getting matted. Grooming is an excellent way to spend time with your furball too. Choose a brush that will enable relaxation in the cat. Some brushes also come equipped as massagers. You can opt for those as well.

Nail Trimmer

Trimmed nails are essential for both your fur baby and you. By keeping their nails clipped, your furniture remains protected from their sharp scratches and the kitty does not have to suffer an infection or the pain of ingrown nails either. Get your furry little munchkin used to nail clippers from the kitten stage so they don't feel threatened at the sight of them and nail trimming sessions will never be a headache for you.

Cat Food

Cat food comes in several options. Before you bring a cat home, try to obtain information on its diet at the shelter, pet store, or breeder and keep following that for a while before slowly switching to a new diet. Sudden and frequent diet changes can cause gastrointestinal problems in cats. So, if you introduce a new diet, try to stick to that. The kitty’s age also determines what you should feed them. Kittens, adult cats, and elderly cats all need different diets.

If you are looking for wholesome cat food, Whiskas has specially designed food for furballs of all ages. You can check out their products to determine which one best suits the dietary need of your feline friend.

FAQs on Things to Get for a New Cat

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1. **What should a first-time kitten owner know?**

   Always have food, water, and grooming essentials like brushes, litter and litter tray ready. Keep small items like rubber bands, marbles, bottle caps, etc out of your cat's reach as they may choke on these items. Be prepared for health emergencies.

2. **What are some mandatory cat items?**

   A cat cradle or carrier is a must for bringing your kitty into its new home. Cat food, water and food bowls, bed, litter boxes, grooming brushes, nail clippers, toys, and a collar with a tag are also must-have items.

3. **What is the most low-maintenance cat?**

   Cats aren't all that high-maintenance. Some might require frequent grooming and special attention, but most are easy to manage. Some especially low-maintenance breeds include the American Shorthair, the European Shorthair, Ragdolls, Bombay, Burmese, Abyssinian, Cornish Rex, and Scottish Fold.

4. **How should I prepare for a new cat?**

   To make your fur baby feel welcome in your home arrange for a warm bed and a safe space for them. Also, get them safe toys. Ease them into a suitable diet and keep plenty of food and water handy.

5. **Are female or male cats better?**

   The sex of a cat doesn't really matter since it is advisable to neuter it at about four months of age. Even without neutering, genes and the environment you provide for the cat determine their behaviour instead of cat gender.

6. **What is the best cat for a first-time owner?**

   Every cat is different with their unique personality, so there is no straight answer to this question. However, some friendly and easy-going breeds of cat recommended for first-time cat parents include Maine Coon, Somali, Siamese, Ragdolls, American Shorthair, and Burmese.

7. **What age of kitten is best to get?**

   Kittens aged 8-12 weeks are ideal for adoption or purchase as they are in the process of weaning off at this age and ready to be more independent. Kittens are also easy to train and adapt to new surroundings smoothly.

8. **Should you keep cat food and water separate?**

   Yes, it is suggested to keep cat food dish and their water bowl in two different locations because cats don’t like the scent of their food or food particles floating in their water.

9. **What should I feed my adopted cat?**

   You can feed your adopted cat any cat food from the many available in the market. Just ensure the cat food has the right amount of nutrients needed by your furry friend.

10. **Is it ok to give cats wet food every day?**

    Yes, you can. In fact, giving your fur kid wet food everyday along with dry food will ensure they stay hydrated since wet cat food contains a lot of fluids.

11. **What is the first thing to do when you bring a cat home?**
    1. Give them a safe and comfortable place where they can hide.
    2. Ensure they have enough water, food, and a litter box handy.
    3. Visit their safe place frequently so that they get accustomed to your presence.
    4. Give them time and let them approach you. If you try to hold or cuddle it forcefully, you will only frighten it further.
    5. Use toys to entice them and get comfortable with you.
12. **How long does it take an adopted cat to get comfortable?**

    Give your fur baby at least three days to adjust to their new home. Some may take longer, but as long as your new kitty is eating, drinking, and using the litter box, there’s no need to worry.

13. **What items do you need for a new cat?**

    You should get a cat cradle or carrier, food, bed, water and food bowls, cat litter and a litter box. You should also get cat hammocks, safe toys, grooming tools like brushes and nail trimmers and a collar with an ID tag.

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