

## **Advice and feeding schedule for kittens**

### **Specific feeding advice for your kittens.**

Your kittens were raised with great care and a lot of attention.

They were raised on (Hills/Royal Canin/Iams/Eukanuba) baby and kitten chew.

Complete premium dry cat food is known for its high quality protein which causes the fur to shine. It is an A-feed, a bit more expensive than other feed, but they eat less of it and have a high absorption in the intestines and firm faces. The baby chew has a high percentage of fat which is good for the first 4 months.

In the morning and in the evening they are given can food of the tastes chicken, salmon, tuna or beef which they are fond of. They share this with all of them.

We always have well filled bowls with dry feed for the cats and we assume that cats do not overeat. In this way a cat can eat in a well dosed manner over a period of 24 hours instead of the feed being swallowed at a particular time.

They are absolutely not given any milk which is not good for the intestines of a cat.

### **Water**

See to it that every day fresh drinking water is available in a clean water bowl.



*Below you will find general advice.*

### **General advice with respect to Fresh meat and fish.**

Chicken : cooked e.g. stomach and liver

Meat : heart cooked

Fish : Pollack fresh or frozen. Fish should be cooked otherwise it will have no nutritional value for the cat. Clean fish very well in view of bones.

## **Never serve your cat pork products!!!**

### **Rice**

Of very good use as a means against diarrhoea. It can be given on top of the feed or mixed through it. The rice water can be added to the water bowl.

### **Eggs, cheese and milk.**

A tasty in between feed is a mix of egg yolk and a bit of condensed milk, if the white of an egg is used, the nutritional value is nil.

A bit of ground cheese once a week over the meal is very good for the calcium which the cat needs. Never give them full-cream milk, certain cats can develop terrible diarrhoea. Better to give them some condensed milk.

Yet another way to keep calcium percentage at a good level is by giving kitten milk, which is available at the pet shop or from a vet.



### **General advice with respect to diarrhoea**

If your cat suffers from diarrhoea and you are sure that it is not serious enough to consult a vet, give the cat no food for 24 hours. Personally, in case of persistent diarrhoea, I collect some faeces and give it to the for examination. Give some water in small quantities at a time. This is done in order to make the gastrointestinal tract entirely empty. After that you start with very light meals such as rice/chicken, rice/fish, if necessary mixed with low-fat yoghurt.

### **Number of meals per day.**

Kittens 3-6 months 4 meals per day

Kittens 6-9 months 3 meals per day

Grown cats 2 meals per day

Do not be amazed, just wonder about how much feed your little kitten can handle in one day. Especially at the age of 3-6 months, many people are inclined to worry. Don't!!!

The principle is : If the kitten has been wormed well, give it as much to eat as it wants,

A kitten will not overeat. Between 6-9 months the gobbling decreases and there will even be some leftovers. Now is the time to supply the portions specifically. In this manner the kitten will become a healthy, well built cat later. If a cat has been sterilised or castrated, it is very important to pay very good attention to the cat's weight (overweight).

### **Castrating or sterilising**

The question is WHEN??

#### **Pussy cats**

For pussy cats that are not used for breeding purposes, we use the guideline of 11 or 12 months. It is a fairy-tale that they should first have had a litter.

Discuss this with your vet.

#### **Tomcats**

The reason for treating tomcats is mostly that they will start to spray or want to go outside. The best age is about 7-10 months. Discuss this with your vet (all our previous tomcats were treated without any problems when they were 7 months old and they do not spray.)

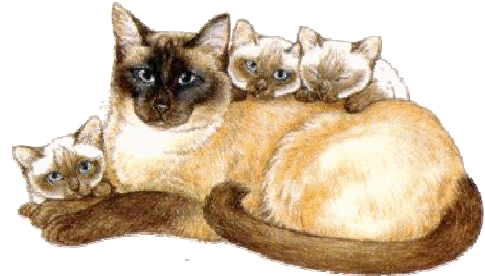


### **A litter**

If you want to have a litter it is best to do this when they are over one year old. Be aware that a Siamese in heat requires much energy. Sometimes you do not recognize your cat any more and you will soon get tired of it. An alternative is to start with the contraceptive pill after the first period of being in heat; I only give half a tablet per week. It is a good thing to know that the pill strongly increases the risk of breast cancer with cats.

An advice is that if you want to have a litter to become a member of a working group, in this way you will cooperate in maintaining the authentic Siamese and to breed a race as healthy as possible without inbreeding. At

the same time a Cattery name will have to be applied for at cat club in order to have a pedigree. Cooperate in this and do not sell your kittens via Marktplaats. A litter is a very nice thing to experience, especially if things go well and the kittens are in good health. Keep in mind however, that it requires a lot of your time, care and attention.



### **Two points to remember**

In spite of the opinion of some people who are of the opinion that we should not interfere with the reproduction system of animals, we have a responsibility towards our pedigree cats.

We must protect them, pussy cats run the risk of unwanted litters. Further there is the danger of infections and diseases which can be contracted when they escape (when being in heat).

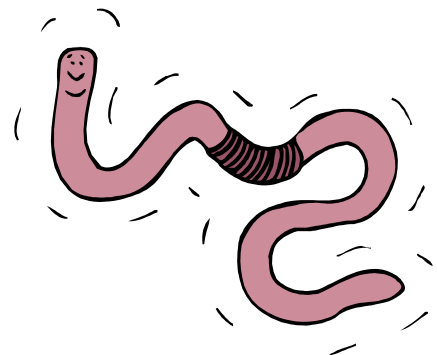
Our tomcats can get lost in their pursuit of pussy cats, or can get hurt in a fight with other tomcats. So our so-called interference only comes them in good stead, generally speaking. We see to it that they are safe and well-protected, able to live in love and luxury with you and your family.

Please be careful with the feeding of castrated animals and sterilised pussycats. Fertile cats use up their energy very fast. Will also moult more often. Your castrated animal/sterilised pussycat mostly has a beautiful fur throughout the year and will also use up less energy.

**Fat cats are not healthy!!!**

### **Inoculation and worming**

They will be wormed at the ages of 6 weeks, 8 and 11 weeks..



It is best to worm your cat two times each year, the general rules prescribe. (my vet first wants to know for sure if there is a reason for this\, such as worms in the faeces, fleas, diarrhoea, if not there will be no worming)

At the ages of 9 and 13+ weeks they will have been inoculated against cat's disease and sneezing illness. The inoculation against cat's diseases will offer sufficient protection for a period of three years. The inoculation against sneezing illness should be repeated every year if you go to a show with a cat or in case of lodging in a kennel.

### Things worth knowing about cats

An excellent book on cats, full of information, entitled 'cats' was published by Spectrum and written by M. Wright and S. Walters.



### **Tips and information**

The location of the cat's box.

If the kittens arrive in a new home, it is very important to point out to them where the cat's box is. Do not put it too close to the place where they eat, otherwise the kittens will use neither. The best thing is a quiet place, easy of access. They are used to the clog shaped cat's box grit of Biokat's Classic, Kenner of Boerenbond is also first-rate. If only you will see to it that it is clean. Once a week I scrub this box, never with Dettol, but with bleaching agent and after that with a scrubbing detergent and I fill up the box fairly full, every day I empty it out. If you see that a kitten is about to relieve himself somewhere else, this can be told from the constant peeping and turning round and round of the kitten, it may not know where the box is. Kittens can be fully toilet-trained after 5 weeks, but accidents may happen, although I have not seen it after the fifth week, if only the space where they live is orderly so that they will know very fast where the box is. Should a kitten do things which are absolutely out of the question use a water gun or a plant spray. The cat does not like this at all, but does not have the ability to put a connection between you and that unpleasant sensation. (I have not yet done this myself)

### **Getting used to the new house**

When the kitten first enters the house, restrict the space until it is used very well to the places where the box and the food are to be found. In this same space allow it to get used to the new members of the family, inclusive of other pets. The kitten itself will also think up flight routes. After this gradually extend the spaces, It is not fair to give the kitten free access of the whole house, things can easily go wrong, an 'accident' may happen and the kitten will hide itself, not a good beginning.

As mentioned before we live in a very quiet neighbourhood, we are not often at home and there is only the two of us. The kittens are not accustomed to noise and unexpected sounds. They will be frightened by this. Give them time to get used to your family circumstances and the surrounding sounds.

### **Scratching post**

Cats scratch things for two reasons : to sharpen their nails and to leave smell characteristics behind which other cats will recognize. An ideal solution to prevent that your most beautiful arm chair will become a scratching object is to procure a scratching post or furniture. Put the kitten against the post with its forelegs and make up and down movements, it will soon understand what the idea is. Cats like it to sit at high places.

### **Toys**

A kitten needs to have toys in order to be active and to learn things. Balls, mice etcetera. The kittens just like Farah and Millie like it to sit on top of the scratching post. Cats like it to sit higher in order to have a vantage point. A basket hanging down from the central heating is also a favourite.



### **Finally**

Your kitten was not born into this life by accident but 'by design '. Therefore our love and respect for this wonderful race means that we feel responsible for each and every kitten that we have bred, and that they are assured of a good health and hopefully of a pleasant and healthy life with you.

### **Warning : danger of kittens**

If you have never had a cat or years ago, consider that a kitten can sometimes be very bad for one's health. They are the fastest beings on four legs!!! So if you think that your little chit is comfortably asleep on your couch ( let's say one minute ago ) it can at this very same moment race between your legs.

Be even more careful going up or down the stairs with a kitten in the house. Most of the time they appear unexpectedly, at the very same place where you want to put down your foot and preferably when your arms are loaded with things.

### **Things not to do**

Don't leave the house without putting the kitten in a safe place, naturally in such a way that it can also reach the cat's box. By nature kittens are explorers and an empty house without somebody who can hear cries for help is full of dangers.

## **Don't forget**

The toilet seat, keep it down. If a kitten has fallen into the toilet, it does not stand any chance of climbing out. Panic and exhaustion will eventually cause it to drown. Don't forget Electric wires, TV, telephone, lighting and stereo sets. For kittens they are just as exciting as ribbons and pieces of string to play with.

## **Don't**

No cats or kittens on the draining board in the kitchen. First of all it is not hygienic. It is also very dangerous to allow the kitten to jump on the draining board, it can result in terrible burns because of the nearness of cooking apparatus.

## **Washing machines and tumble driers**

Never allow the kitten to sleep in empty washing machine or tumble drier. Be extra careful during the first few months that the kitten is in the house. Close the door every time you empty the machine. Do not underestimate the number of cats that lost their lives in this way.

**Poisonous plants** among other things Philodendron, Diffenbachia, Hedera, Oleander, Rhododendron, Azalea

## **Open windows**

Remember that a kitten is very ingenuous. Keep windows on top floors closed or ajar so that the kitten cannot get through.

## **Hot water**

It happens every day you have just made a hot soap sud and the telephone rings. See to it that the kitten cannot get near to it, the hot water would quickly put an end to such a young life.

## **Strings and wool**

Everybody thinks it moving to watch a kitten play with a piece of string or wool. Do not allow this, they can easily swallow quite a long piece of it with disastrous consequences.

## **Pay special attention to**

Buttons, rubber bands, needles and pins and other small things that they can swallow.

This is general advice which is supplied by our club to new owners, occasionally I have adapted it to your kittens. You can always ring me for any further questions.

Should any one of you , maybe because of special circumstances, to dispose of your cat, I would like to request you to get into contact with me first. I am able to mediate in getting a good new home.