

# HELPFUL TIPS TO KEEP KITTY HEALTHY & HAPPY

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Congratulations on your new family member! We have compiled a few helpful hints and safety tips to make your new kitty's transition into your home easier.

## Transportation

- Cats are safest when transported in cat carriers
- Carriers keep cats **safely** confined
- Carriers protect your cat from other dangerous animals
- Carriers keep your cat from becoming scared and running away

## Your Home

- Do not allow your new cat outside until very familiar with your home
  - Most cats do best if given short excursions outside over a few days to a week
  - Either have your cat on a harness or leash – do not leave unattended
  - Ask your veterinarian the best method for acclimating your cat to outside
- Slow introductions with other pets are best
  - Other cats should be slowly introduced using separate rooms
  - Dogs should be VERY slowly introduced in a very safe setting (leash dogs and cat in carrier)
  - Do not leave your new cat alone with your other pets until you are sure they get along
  - This may take a few weeks
  - Some cats and dogs never get along safely
  - Some cats bond quickly and some never become friends
  - Contact your veterinarian for help ; [www.veterinarypartner.com](http://www.veterinarypartner.com) has good tips

## Toxins

- NEVER give your cat human medications unless specifically instructed by your vet to do so
  - Cats are VERY sensitive to medications
  - Many human medications are toxic and possibly fatal to cats
- There are many plants and foods that are very toxic to cats
  - Lilies are **DEADLY** to cats – all parts of these plants are **very** hazardous
  - Onion and garlic are dangerous to cats if eaten
  - For a good list of toxins please visit [www.ASPCA.org](http://www.ASPCA.org) to view their toxic plant database
- We **STRONGLY** discourage the use of over-the-counter flea products
  - Many cats are sensitive to the chemical ingredients and can become ill from them
  - **NEVER** use dog products on cats - can cause potentially fatal seizures in cats
  - We recommend using cat doses of Advantage, Advantage Multi, or Frontline

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Safe Haven for Cats