

# Congratulations On Finding Love!

## Set Your Pet Up for Success

Are you feeling the warm and fuzzies yet? We're so excited for your new journey to start, and for you to begin making memories with your new family member. We're here to help you get settled, and we're going to kick this off with being sure you walk through your new pet check list! Be sure to check off the below 6 items during the first week with your new pet, and read through this booklet carefully for more information.

**○ Learn About Your Pet's Nutrition:** Your pet has been eating Purina ONE while staying in our care, and we recommend that they continue to eat Purina food. You can learn more about this nutritious (and delicious!) food by visiting Purina's website or reading the enclosed flyer.

**○ Visit the Pet Store:**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cat Food             | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratching Post      | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming Supplies            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leash                | <input type="checkbox"/> Cat Tower            | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter Box, Scoop and Litter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Water Bowls | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys (Lots of them!) |   |

**○ Get Pet Insurance:** MetLife Pet Insurance has arranged for you and your pet to have 30-days of pet insurance or a \$10 Amazon gift card at no cost to you.

**○ See the Vet:** Your pet has been seeing our fantastic, in-house Shelter Medicine Team while they've been in our care, but they'll need a new veterinarian now! Because of this, we've worked with VCA Animal Hospitals to get you a complimentary starter appointment at a participating VCA hospital.

**○ Stay Healthy:** Learn how your pet is impacted by zoonotic diseases.

**○ File Your Records:** Your pet's medical records, including their rabies vaccine and microchip information, has been included in your adoption email. It's the one with the subject "Your Adoption Paperwork". Be sure to save these records someplace safe. They're often needed by your veterinarian, at your day care, and at your boarding facility.

**○ Share Your Excitement:** Adding a new member to your family is exciting! Share your adoption story on social media using #AdoptATL and tag us @atlantahumane. We'd love to see how your new pet is settling in.

# Cat Ownership 101

## Welcoming Your New Cat Home

Having a cat in your life can be overwhelming at times, but we'll always be a phone call away if you have any questions or concerns at 404.875.5331. Our team is available 7 days a week from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. to talk you through pet ownership or guide you to the appropriate resource. In the meantime, start here with these cat basics from our friends at PetFinder and Purina.

**Congratulations on adopting your new cat!** Getting your newly adopted cat home and settled is an exciting time and it's important to make the transition smooth for her, for you and for your household.

**BE PATIENT** • Keep in mind that your new cat has likely experienced a lot of change. She is coming into a new home and new family, so take things slow. If she appears unsure or scared, start her out in a small, quiet room with her litterbox, food, water, scratching post and a cat bed. Don't worry if it takes a few weeks or months for a new cat to fully settle in.

**HELP HER GET ACQUAINTED** • If there are other cats in your household, a slow and planned approach to introductions can help set you and your pets up for success.

Try keeping your two cats in separate rooms to allow them to get used to new sounds and scents. You can try feeding them on opposite sides of a door to help form a positive associations. Then slowly allow the cats to spend supervised time together.

If introducing your new cat to your dog, a baby gate is a helpful tool. This will allow them to see each other but prevents contact. Leash your dog so that you can lead him away from the gate if he becomes too focused on your new family member.

**NURTURE HER NATURAL INSTINCTS** • Cats scratch to stretch, maintain their nails and mark their territory. To help keep your cat from scratching your furniture, give her a scratching post and provide positive reinforcement whenever she uses it.

**TRAIN HER** • Most cats will learn to use the litter box fairly quickly. As a general rule, you should have at least 1.5 litter boxes per cat. So for one cat, you need two litter boxes; two cats, three litter boxes. If your cat stops using her litter box, contact your vet to rule out any potential health problems.

**HELP HER FEEL AT HOME** • Establishing a routine and creating boundaries can help your cat understand what to expect and when (such as mealtime). In turn, this gives her a sense of security. Also, be sure she has her own space, like a bed or perch, where she can go to rest and relax.

### UNDERSTANDING YOUR CAT'S HEALTH

Becoming familiar with the signs of normal health helps you notice any changes that may signal it's time to visit your veterinarian. If you notice any changes in your cat's health or behavior, consult with your veterinarian.

**EYES** • Eyes should be clear and bright with no red or yellow discoloration, tearing or cloudiness. If discharge collects in the corners of her eyes, clean them with a cotton ball moistened with warm water.

**EARS** • Ears should be free of discharge and odor. Have your vet show you how to routinely clean her ears with cotton balls (not cotton swabs) moistened with water.

**MOUTH** • Healthy gums are pink, with no redness or swelling at the tooth margins. Teeth should be free of tartar build-up and she shouldn't have bad breath.

**NOSE** • Your cat's nose should be clean and free of any discharge.

**SKIN & COAT** • Her skin and coat should be free of lumps, tumors, fleas and ticks. A normal coat is smooth, thick and shiny, free of greasiness, dandruff and bare patches.

**LEGS** • Check your cat for swollen joints and inspect feet between the toes for excess hair, objects lodged there and the condition of her toenails.





Your New Cat is Thriving

on Purina ONE®

As you welcome your new cat home, there are a lot of things to think about. Luckily, looking for the right pet food doesn't have to be one of them.

Your cat has been enjoying the complete and balanced nutrition of Purina ONE® at our shelter, and we recommend you continue feeding it in your home.



Real meat is the **#1 INGREDIENT** in all\* dry formulas  
\*excluding Purina ONE® Urinary Tract Health Formula

**0% FILLERS**  
**100% NUTRITION**  
*Complete & Balanced Adult Cat Food*

**VARIETY OF FORMULAS**  
FOR AGE, DIETARY NEED  
AND MORE!

**PROUD PARTNER**





# Options for Every Pet in Your Family

Purina proudly offers a wide variety of high-quality nutrition, snacks, and litter options to support every pet in your family. And because Purina pet care products are 100% safe and widely available, you have the freedom to choose what works for you.

Explore Purina pet care products at most major retailers and online.



Every ingredient in Purina foods serves a purpose



Purina crafts 99% of our pet food products in our own US facilities

# 100k

Purina conducts 100k quality and safety checks per day across our US facilities



Every ingredient can be traced to our trusted source

## Pet Insurance

### MetLife

Pet insurance is a key part of pet ownership. We partner with MetLife Pet Insurance and have arranged for you and your pet to have 30-days of pet insurance or a \$10 Amazon gift card at no cost to you. Learn more by calling them today!



#### Congratulations on your newest family member!

Bringing your pet home is an exciting time. As a new pet parent, you want to be prepared to provide the best care for your pet if unexpected veterinary expenses arise.

#### MetLife Pet Insurance can help!

To help ease your transition, Atlanta Humane Society has arranged for you and your pet to have 30-days of pet insurance or a \$10 Amazon gift card at no cost to you. Take advantage of this offer by calling the number below. You'll also learn more about MetLife Pet Insurance's full range of insurance options and how extended coverage from MetLife Pet Insurance can help you protect your pets.

#### Your 30-days of pet insurance includes:

- \$500 of coverage for accidents & illnesses
- 100% reimbursement after a \$50 deductible for covered accidents & illnesses
- Use any licensed vet, emergency clinic or specialist in the United States

#### Extended coverage options provide:

- Protection for cats and dogs—all breeds and all ages
- Coverage<sup>2</sup> for accidents & illnesses including breed-specific, congenital and chronic conditions
- Flexible, customizable plans designed to fit many budgets

Call now

**855-709-7387**

Or Learn About Other Available Offers<sup>3</sup>

Monday-Friday | 8am-9pm EST

Saturday and Sunday | 10am-7pm EST

Coverage begins immediately following policy activation.

Gift card will be issued separately.

<sup>1</sup> Pet Insurance offered by MetLife Pet Insurance Solutions LLC is underwritten by Independence American Insurance Company ("IAIC"), a Delaware insurance company, headquartered at 485 Madison Avenue, NY, NY 10022, and Metropolitan General Insurance Company ("MetGen"), a Rhode Island insurance company, headquartered at 700 Quaker Lane, Warwick, RI 02886, in those states where MetGen's policies are available. MetLife Pet Insurance Solutions LLC is the policy administrator authorized by IAIC and MetGen to offer and administer pet insurance policies. MetLife Pet Insurance Solutions LLC was previously known as PetFirst Healthcare, LLC and in some states continues to operate under that name pending approval of its application for a name change. The entity may operate under an alternate, assumed, and/or fictitious name in certain jurisdictions as approved, including MetLife Pet Insurance Services LLC (New York and Minnesota), MetLife Pet Insurance Solutions Agency LLC (Illinois), and such other alternate, assumed, or fictitious names approved by certain jurisdictions.

<sup>2</sup> Provided all terms of the policy are met. Application is subject to underwriting review and approval. Like most insurance policies, insurance policies issued by IAIC and MetGen contain certain deductibles, co-insurance, exclusions, exceptions, reductions, limitations, and terms for keeping them in force. For costs, complete details of coverage and exclusions, and a listing of approved states, please contact MetLife Pet Insurance Solutions LLC.

<sup>3</sup> In exchange for calling MetLife and learning more about MetLife's extended Pet Insurance coverage options - including receiving a quote—you can choose to activate a 30-Day Pet Insurance policy to cover your new pet or receive a \$10 Amazon gift card. No purchase is necessary. 30-Day Pet Insurance policy and \$10 Amazon gift card may not be combined with each other or with any other promotional offer.



# Schedule Your Pet's Vet Visit

## VCA Animal Hospitals

The Atlanta Humane Society and VCA Animal Hospitals have teamed up to ensure that your pet is healthy and have agreed to provide your pet with a complimentary exam and healthcare from VCA.

- A complimentary overall health exam (strongly recommended within 5 days) administered courtesy of VCA Animal Hospitals
- Complimentary 10-day follow-up care (up to \$250 discount) for the diseases listed on this Healthy Start Certificate at any of the VCA Animal Hospitals listed in the approved list.

## Healthy Start Certificate

To give your pet the healthiest start possible, VCA Animal Hospitals will provide your newly adopted pet with the following:

Turn over  
to locate the  
VCA Hospital  
nearest you

### Complimentary Health Exam

Complimentary initial exam is strongly recommended within the first five days after adoption date. Examination includes checking your pet's heart, lungs, and other vital organs, along with examining for fleas, ticks, and other external parasites. A VCA representative will call you soon to schedule your appointment, or you may call your nearest VCA Animal Hospital (listed on the back).

### Complimentary 10-Day Follow-up Care\*

for any of the following conditions (\*\$250 maximum coverage):

- Upper respiratory infections
- Diarrhea of infectious origin
- Internal parasites
- Ear and eye infections
- Suture removal
- Infectious tracheobronchitis (kennel cough)
- Vomiting of infectious origin (excluding parvo)
- Common skin disorders
- Urinary tract infections
- Rabies vaccine

**Not included:** Emergency and specialty veterinary services are not part of complimentary care. Some diseases and conditions are excluded (not part of complimentary care): Congenital and inherited diseases or conditions are not covered. No coverage is offered for the treatment of FIP, feline leukemia, FIV, parvovirus, distemper or hepatitis. No coverage is offered for sarcoptic mange, demodectic mange, ringworm, or cheyletiella. Any disease or condition not mentioned here (in covered or excluded sections) can be treated during the provided 10-day follow-up care at 25% off regular prices, to be paid by the new owner.

Note: Based on pet's vaccination history, additional booster vaccinations may be recommended by VCA, and are the pet owner's expense if approved.

\*The medical services identified above provided by VCA Animal Hospitals are covered up to \$250 during the first 10 days after adoption. This offer applies only to your qualifying adopted dog or cat and not to any other animals and redeemable only at a participating VCA Animal Hospital listed on this certificate. This certificate is void should you select another veterinary hospital for the initial examination of your adopted pet.

For staff only:

WoolWare cashier code: Free first exam: 1.5000 • 10-day limited healthcare guarantee discount: 601.101

# atlanta hu♥ane society

## Locations

### Participating VCA Animal Hospitals

#### Atlanta

##### **VCA Buckhead Animal Hospital**

1911 Piedmont Circle NE  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
404-873-3771  
VCAbuckhead.com

##### **VCA Pets Are People Too Veterinary Hospital**

1510 Piedmont Avenue  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
404-875-7387  
VCApetsarepeopletoootlanta.com

#### Carrollton

##### **VCA Carrollton Animal Hospital**

501 Clifton Terrace  
Carrollton, GA 30117  
770-834-6671  
VCAcarrollton.com

#### Chamblee

##### **VCA Peachtree Animal Hospital**

4839 Peachtree Road  
Chamblee, GA 30341  
770-457-2591  
VCApeachtree.com

##### **VCA Pets Are People Too Veterinary Hospital**

4280 North Peachtree Road  
Chamblee, GA 30341  
770-452-1001  
VCApetsarepeopletoochamblee.com

#### Dahlonega

##### **VCA Chestatee Animal Hospital**

16 Westbrook Road  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706-864-1005  
VCAchestatee.com

##### **VCA Dahlonega Animal Hospital**

1284 Dawsonville Hwy  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706-864-7191  
VCAdahlonega.com

#### Ellijay

##### **VCA Appalachian Animal Hospital**

125 Mulberry Street  
East Ellijay, GA 30540  
706-635-7357  
VCAappalachian.com

#### Lilburn

##### **VCA Lilburn Animal Hospital**

4985 Lawrenceville Highway  
Lilburn, GA 30047  
770-921-6766  
VCAlilburn.com

#### Marietta

##### **VCA Terrell Mill Animal Hospital**

1315 Powers Ferry Road SE  
Marietta, GA 30067  
770-952-9300  
VCAterrellmill.com

#### Peachtree City

VCA Braelinn Village  
Animal Hospital  
1130 Crosstown Court  
Peachtree City, GA 30269  
770-486-0077  
VCAbraelinnvillage.com

#### Roswell

##### **VCA Pets Are People Too Roswell Animal Hospital**

535 Sun Valley Drive  
Roswell, GA 30076  
770-993-3040  
VCApetsarepeopletooroswell.com

##### **VCA Roswell Animal Hospital**

1112 Alpharetta Street  
Roswell, GA 30075  
770-993-9031  
VCAroswell.com

#### Sandy Springs

##### **VCA North Atlanta Animal Hospital**

227 Sandy Springs Place, Ste 210  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328  
404-255-9345  
VCAnorthatlanta.com

#### Suwanee

##### **VCA Falcon Village Animal Hospital**

2030 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Rd.  
Suwanee, GA 30024  
770-962-8326  
VCAfalconvillage.com

## Pet Health

### Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic diseases are diseases that can be spread between animals and people. They can be caused by pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi. These pathogens can come from many animal species, including pets. And, since you're a new pet owner, we wanted to make sure you knew a bit about keeping yourself and your family healthy from a zoonotic disease that your pet might accidentally pick up.

#### **How are zoonotic diseases spread?**

Zoonotic diseases can be spread in a number of ways. Some methods of transmission include fecal-oral transmission, food-borne transmission, insect-borne transmission, and direct or indirect contact. These diseases are often spread from dogs and cats unintentionally when people ingest small, usually invisible, amounts of stool containing a pathogen. This can occur when a person touches their eyes, nose, or mouth after handling an infected animal, or when an infected animal bites or scratches a human. It can also happen through contact with contaminated pet food.

#### **Who is at higher risk of being infected with zoonotic diseases?**

Young children, pregnant women, older people, and anyone with a weakened immune system are more likely to become ill from a zoonotic disease. Examples of conditions that cause a weaker immune system include HIV/AIDS, autoimmune diseases, and people undergoing treatment with chemotherapy, steroids or other immune-suppressing medications.

#### **How can I reduce the risk to myself and my family?**

Sometimes animals carrying a zoonotic disease appear perfectly healthy. It is important to practice these habits with all animals, even if they do not appear to be sick.

- Wash your hands with soap and running water after handling any animal, after you've cleaned up after your pet, and after handling uncooked food.
- Make sure children wash their hands after touching an animal and teach them to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth until after they've thoroughly washed their hands. Keep any children under 5 years of age away from where pets are being fed.
- Make sure children stay away from wildlife and that they do not pet unknown dogs or cats without the owner's permission.
- Make sure your pet receives regular preventive veterinary care including yearly vaccinations as well as regular flea, tick, and intestinal parasite preventives.
- Clean up after your pets in a tightly sealed, impermeable bag.



## Pet Health

### Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus

#### **What are Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus?**

Feline Leukemia Virus or FeLV can cause a compromised immune system in a cat. According to the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP), the prevalence of FeLV occurring in pet cats is, on average, 2.3%. FeLV can be transmitted from infected cats when the transfer of saliva or nasal secretions is involved. Cats can fight off the infection and become totally immune, they can become a healthy carrier who never gets sick but can infect other cats, or they may develop a compromised immune system. Symptomatic cats live an average of three years after diagnosis. Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, or FIV, also causes a compromised immune system in a cat. According to the AAFP, the prevalence of FIV occurring in pet cats is, on average, 2.5%. FIV is transmitted from infected cats through deep bite wounds. While rare, kittens can be born with FIV transmitted from their mothers in utero. Cats infected with FIV are often asymptomatic for years and can live long, healthy lives.

#### **Should I have my cat tested for FeLV and FIV?**

Your veterinarian may recommend testing if your cat is showing signs of sickness. If you have existing cats in your home, you can discuss testing with your veterinarian before introducing your new cat. If your cat is under six months of age and has tested positive for FeLV or FIV, they must be tested again at six months old. Cats can, and many do, fight off the infection after initial exposure. VCA Animal Hospitals can include testing for your new adopted cat as part of your complimentary 10-day follow up. For full details, please refer to your Healthy Start Certificate and your VCA veterinarian.

#### **Can a cat positive for FeLV or FIV live in a home with healthy cats?**

An FIV positive cat can live in a home with FIV negative cats for their entire lives with no risk of transmission as long as the cats cohabitate peacefully. FeLV can be transmitted through mutual grooming, however 70-80% of adult cats exposed to FeLV fight off the virus and develop immunity.

#### **What should I do if my cat tests positive for FeLV or FIV?**

Although there is no known cure for FeLV or FIV, supportive care can improve their quality of life, health, and longevity. FeLV and FIV cats need comfortable and stress-free homes, good food, and regular vet visits. The Atlanta Humane Society does not generally recommend an outdoor lifestyle for pet cats, and this is doubly so for a cat positive for FeLV or FIV.

#### **Can humans or dogs catch FeLV or FIV from an infected cat?**

No, FeLV and FIV are only transmissible between cats and cannot be transmitted to other species.

## Pet Health

### Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus

#### **Does the Atlanta Humane Society test for FeLV and FIV?**

Because we rarely see these diseases, we do not test for FeLV and FIV in every single cat entering our care. We see FeLV in only 0.2% of the cats who come into our care, and the cases of FIV that we do see are in otherwise healthy cats. Additionally, FIV positive cats commonly live long and healthy lives and a positive diagnosis doesn't negatively affect their quality of life. With cats who are exposed to FeLV, testing is not considered to be a 100% accurate screening tool. Cats may test negative for FeLV in the initial stage of infection, they may test positive and then overcome the disease, and sometimes cats who are negative yield false positive results for FeLV. If we do test for these, it is because a cat has been showing signs of sickness that we can't attribute to other causes and we're looking to rule out FeLV and FIV.

#### **How can I learn more about FeLV or FIV?**

We recommend you speak to your veterinarian about any further questions you have. There are also additional online resources available on our website at [atlantahumane.org/feline-viruses](http://atlantahumane.org/feline-viruses).

