

Feline Adoption Packet



Congrats on your new furry friend!

Important information for adopters of cats and kittens

My Pet's Information

Please keep this information in a safe place!

Name: _____

Adoption Date: _____ License #: _____

Microchip Company: _____

Microchip Number: _____

Vet Name: _____

Vet Contact Number: _____

Vet Address: _____

Contact List

Adoption Questions/Customer Service

(360) 692-6977, customerservice@kitsap-humane.org

Medical Questions

(360) 692-6977 ext. 1209, mzarb@kitsap-humane.org

Behavior Advice/Training

(360) 692-6977 ext. 1225

Returns-by appointment

(360) 692-6977 ext. 1123

24 Hour Emergency Care

VCA Central Kitsap

2238 NW Bucklin Hill Rd, Ste 100, Silverdale, WA 98383 Phone: 360-692-6162

A quick note about licensing....

Depending on where you live, you may be required to obtain a license for your newly adopted cat. All cats in Kitsap County are required to be licensed, and there are different licenses for each city and unincorporated Kitsap County. Your adoption processor should let you know which license you need and may be able to issue one to you, however you will be required to update it as necessary.

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Kitsap Humane Society

Thank you for choosing to adopt from Kitsap Humane Society! We hope you will be very happy with your new companion. In this adoption packet you will find a variety of helpful hints and materials, including important documents about your new cat and the adoption process. We encourage you to keep these documents in a safe place along with your other important papers. When one of our cats leaves the shelter to start his or her “new beginning” we feel great happiness for the cat and his or her new family.

So, we again thank you for giving your cat a loving home, and we hope you will encourage others to consider adopting an animal from KHS or another shelter, so they too can experience the joy of finding a new best friend.

KHS’ vision is that every adoptable companion animal has a home. For more information, visit www.kitsap-humane.org.



My Pet's Microchip-Frequently Asked Questions

Is my pet microchipped?

Yes. All KHS animals leave with a microchip that is registered to Home Again.

Do I need to pay an annual or registration fee for my pet's microchip to be registered?

No. Your adoption fee includes lifetime registration with Home Again. Home Again offers a fee-based annual membership with enhanced benefits that you may wish to purchase, but basic membership (included with adoption) is all you need to make sure your pet can be traced to you. There is no annual fee for basic membership.

How do I update or verify that my pet's microchip information is current?

Visit <http://public.HomeAgain.com> and select "sign up for online access"

or call 1-888-Home Again (1-888-466-3242)

If you move or your contact information changes, you must contact Home Again and update your information. This is the only way a finder will be able to trace your pet's microchip to you.

What if my pet has a non-Home Again microchip?

If your pet came into KHS with a non-Home Again microchip, we registered it with Home Again when you adopted it. However, the original chip company will not have your contact information unless you give it to them. If your pet goes missing, anyone scanning that chip will contact the previous owner. Therefore, you must call that chip company and give them your contact information. The company may charge you to update the information. KHS is not responsible for that fee.

Avid: www.AvidID.com, 951-284-1300, 1-800-336-2843

24 Pet Watch: www.24petwatch.com/US/lost_pet, 1-866-597-2424

ResQ: www.petlink.net, 1-877-PETLINK, 1-877-738-5465

Michelson Found Animals Foundation: www.foundanimals.org

What should I do if my pet is microchipped and is not appearing in Home Again's records?

Contact Home Again (see above).



Congratulations on your adoption! Kitsap Humane Society is a proud partner of Petco Love Lost, a FREE service that uses pet facial recognition to help reunite lost pets.



When you adopt or reclaim your cat or dog from our shelter, they are already pre-registered on Lost.PetcoLove.org - your pet's profile will be automatically moved to your new account when you complete your free registration.

Petco Love Lost's mission is to reunite all lost dogs and cats with their families. Register your pets for FREE today to help ensure they make their way back to you if they ever go missing in the future.

Your New Cat

Adopting a cat or kitten is a long term commitment! Cats have an average lifespan of 12-20 years, but some cats can live 25 years or more. Your commitment to being a responsible cat guardian includes:

- Providing good food, clean water, medical care, a safe and comfortable environment.
- Complying with state and local ordinances related to keeping a cat.
- Providing a collar and ID tag with your name and phone number(s) for your cat to wear at all times, and registering his microchip with your contact information.
- Addressing all behavior or health issues that may arise in a humane and timely manner.

The First 24 Hours and Beyond

There are a number of supplies you need to start your new cat off on the right foot. Make sure you have:

- Safety cat collar and ID tags– Be sure the collar is a quick release, specifically designed for cats.
- Cat food and bowls for food and water.
- Litter box and quality cat litter.
- Safe and durable toys, including something for the cat to scratch on. Your cat has a natural instinct to scratch, give it something other than your furniture. We also suggest a vertical space for it to climb on such as a cat tree.

Food

We will send you home with a starter bag of the food your cat has been eating at our shelter. Please transition your cat gradually from our food to your new brand of food to avoid gastrointestinal upset. Start with a ratio of $\frac{3}{4}$ current food to $\frac{1}{4}$ new food and slowly increase the amount of the new food daily to avoid gastrointestinal upset. It should take about 2 weeks to fully transition from one food to another.

Settling In

On average, it takes a cat several weeks to become fully acclimated to his new home life. During this time introduce your cat to it's new environment slowly. Give your new cat a safe place away from resident pets, with one room to explore. After a few days, once it is comfortable, allow it in another area of the home. Slowly increase your cat's territory over several weeks until it is fully comfortable in it's new home. If your cat is shy or fearful, it may need more time to settle in to each space before exploring other areas of the house.

Returns

It is our hope that your new cat will remain in your home for the rest of it's life and that any behavior issue will be worked on to the best of your ability. We are always available to help you with any concerns you may have. If you are unable to keep your cat for any reason, you are asked to return it to the Kitsap Humane Society; however, responsible re-homing is acceptable. This includes re-homing to a close friend or family member. If you rehome your cat, please let us know of any new owner information. Re-homing via social media, Craigslist or other pet re-homing site is in violation of your adoption contract. We ask that you contact us for any behavior related issues prior to making the decision to return. In many cases, a cat can stay in the home with some training and support. We will take back any cat that has been adopted from us within 90 days of your adoption. Please make an appointment in advance so we can prepare for its arrival. After 90 days, any cat that is returned to KHS is considered an "Owner Surrender" and is subject to the Owner Surrender policies and procedures.

To make an appointment to return or surrender your animal, please contact our admissions department at: (360) 692-6977 ext. 1123.

Please be advised that we do not refund any adoption fees or offer exchanges for any reason.

Your Cat's Health

KHS is committed to the health and welfare of the animals in our shelter, and provides high quality care in an effort to place animals who are healthy. Dogs and cats, however are living beings who are forever changing and we can not guarantee their health or behavior. In a large-scale kennel environment, whether it is a boarding kennel, breeder, retail outlet, or a shelter, a number of transmittable illnesses can be passed among animals within a common living area. Some animals may not exhibit symptoms during their stay at the shelter and may only show signs of illness once they have been placed in a loving home. By adopting, you have committed to providing your new cat with any medical care he or she may require. Additionally, KHS is not able to provide medical care to owned animals once they leave our care, so all medical expenses are the responsibility of the adopter. We provide medical information to the adopter when it is available. Kitsap Humane Society recommends that you visit a full service veterinarian within ten days of adoption. Any medical care or fees are the adopters sole responsibility.



Veterinarian Partnership Program

Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

What should I know about URI?

URI is a highly contagious illness that affects the upper respiratory tracts of cats. This includes the nose, throat, and sinus area. It is primarily caused by viruses, but bacteria can also play a role in URI.

What are the symptoms of URI?

Symptoms of URI vary but can often include nasal discharge, sneezing, runny eyes, squinting, coughing, fever, lethargy, loss of appetite, and difficulty breathing.

How is it transmitted and how long does it last?

URI is transmitted when an infected cat sheds its highly contagious particles in saliva or secretions from the eyes or nose. A susceptible cat can then become ill when it comes in contact with an infected cat or is exposed to any objects that have come in contact with an infected cat. Once infected, a cat can exhibit symptoms within 2-10 days. If the infection is uncomplicated and addressed quickly, a cat can recover within 7-21 days. It is important to note that the cat can be infectious to other cats during this entire period.

How is it treated?

It is always a good idea to have any cat that is exhibiting symptoms of URI examined by a full service vet. Should your vet determine that your cat does indeed have URI, they may prescribe antibiotics or other medication. It is extremely important to treat URI, and as quickly as possible before it turns into something more serious like pneumonia.



"Congratulations on your new pet! Kitsap Humane Society would like to introduce you to local veterinarians who have joined our **Veterinary Partnership Program**. Through the generous help of these participating veterinary clinics, **your newly adopted pet will be given one complimentary office visit.**

We strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to visit a local veterinarian and establish a lifelong relationship for you and your new pet. While Kitsap Humane Society strives to adopt out pets in good health, many pets come to us with unknown medical histories and can develop illnesses that may not be evident until they are in their new home environment.

In partnering with local veterinarians, it is our hope that you find the ongoing support and care that your pet needs to ensure it lives a long, healthy life with you."

--Dr. Jennifer Stonequist, Director of Shelter Medicine, Kitsap Humane Society

Please note that complimentary exams will vary from clinic to clinic. Some clinics may not offer a free wellness exam if your pet is sick has been previously diagnosed with a medical condition. Additionally, clinics may change the timeline of when discounts are provided or change the discounted amount at any time. Please contact the participating veterinary clinic of your choice prior to your pet's visit for further explanation of coverage. Veterinary clinics are listed in alphabetical order.

Alder Trail Animal Hospital

5757 Hwy 303 NE, Bremerton, WA 98311
Phone: 360-377-3971

Complimentary "new Pet wellness exam". Must be redeemed within four weeks of adoption from KHS. Vaccinations, lab work, prescriptions, X-ray's, etc., are not included. Offer applies only to the recently adopted pet.

All Creatures Animal Hospital

4241 State Hwy 3 W, Bremerton, WA 98312
Website: www.allcreatures24hr.com
Phone: 360-377-3801

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption

*If pet comes in sick or has any additional care needed, free wellness exam will not be honored. Please call for any additional questions or concerns

Angeles Clinic for Animals

160 Del Guzzi Drive, Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-452-7686

One complimentary office visit. Offer must be used within 14 days of adoption. Proof of adoption and vaccinations must be provided.

Apple Tree Cove Animal Hospital

11254 NE East 2nd St, Kingston, WA 98342
Phone: 360-297-2898

Up to eight weeks worth of complimentary exams. First exam must be redeemed within two weeks of adoption.

Banfield Pet Hospital

9589 Ridgetop Blvd NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
Phone: 360-698-0850

Free wellness exam with proof of adoption.

Bayview Veterinary Hospital

4214 Kitsap Way, Bremerton, WA 98312

Phone: 360-373-1465. Free wellness exams for healthy pets within 2 weeks of adoption.

Belltowne Veterinary Center

24161 NE State Hwy 3, Belfair, WA 98528
Phone: 360-277-3800

Complimentary initial exam and a free dose of Revolution (flea and tick product). Offer must be redeemed within 10 days of adoption.

Big Valley Veterinary Services

25297 Big Valley Road NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360-697-1650

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Bremerton Animal Hospital

613 N Callow, Bremerton, WA 98312
Phone: 360-373-7333

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Brookside Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

13701 118th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98329
Phone: 253-857-7302

One complimentary office visit within two weeks of adoption.

Cedar Creek Animal Clinic

2950 SE Mile Hill Dr, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Phone: 360-876-9009

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Cedar Creek Animal Clinic

2950 SE Mile Hill Dr, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Phone: 360-876-9009

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Central Valley Animal Hospital

10310 Central Valley Rd. NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Website: www.centralvalleyanimal.com

Phone: 360-930-5142

One free exam to newly adopted pets within 30 days of adoption.

Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital

820 Chimacum Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Website: www.chimacumvet.com

Phone: 360-385-4488

One free exam to newly adopted pets within two weeks of adoption.

Clifton Hollow Animal Hospital

1016 NE Forest Rock Lane, Ste 120, Poulsbo, WA 98370 / Phone: 360-930-6120

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Companion Animal Wellness Center

16404 Lemolo Shore Drive Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-6534

One complimentary exam within three weeks of adoption. Payment plans for preventive care and procedures are available to clients in good standing. Other product promotions are periodically available through our vendors.

Hadlock Veterinary Clinic

711 Ness Corner Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Phone: 360-385-2020

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Harbor Animal Hospital

4225 Burnham Dr, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Phone: 253-851-7866

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Hurricane Ridge Veterinary Hospital

660 N. 7th Ave Sequim, WA 98382

Phone: 360-681-0117

One discounted wellness exam within 3-7 days from adoption (Flexible within 10 days). Call for details.

Fair Isle Animal Clinic

17312 Vashon Hwy SW, Vashon, WA 98070

Phone: 206-463-3607

One free exam within two weeks of adoption.

Family Veterinary Clinic

3217 E Mahogany St, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Phone: 360-452-9682

One complimentary exam within 72 hours of adoption.

Kitsap Veterinary Hospital

3036 Bethel Rd SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: 360-876-2021

Complimentary initial exam within one week of adoption. Frequently offered promotions on website. Paw Plans - several different wellness care plans, offered at a 25% discount off regular pricing that allow clients to make monthly payments. Promotions are subject to change.

North Kitsap Veterinary Clinic

18981 State Hwy 305, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-3414

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

*If pet comes in sick or has any additional care needed, free wellness exam will not be honored. Please call for any additional questions or concerns.

Oak Bay Animal Hospital

975 Oak Bay Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Phone: 360-385-7297

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption

Peninsula Mobile Veterinary Clinic

19689 7th Ave NE #327, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-598-3900

A mobile service fee (\$79 to \$104) applies for all home visits, but a complimentary new patient exam (\$69 value) will be offered within three months of adoption.

Free introductory exam during the first month you own your new pet, up to \$100 in medical services to treat any illness or injury during the first six months and free nail trims for the first year (please call to schedule).

Port Townsend Veterinary Clinic

1445 F St., Port Townsend, WA 98368

Website: www.chimacumvet.com

Phone: 360-379-1133

We offer one free exam to newly adopted pets within two weeks of adoption.

Poulsbo Animal Clinic

19494 7th Ave NE Suite 100, Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360-779-4640

Free introductory exam during the first month you own your new pet, up to \$100 in medical services to treat any illness or injury during the first six months and free nail trims for the first year (please call to schedule).

Poulsbo Marina Vet Clinic

19570 10th Ave NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360-779-4166

One complimentary exam within 10 days of the adoption (Flexible within reason).

Puget Sound Veterinary Specialists

1730 Pottery Ave, Suite 120 Port Orchard, WA 98355
Phone: 360-871-9651

Email: info@psvs.vet

If your primary care veterinarian suspects that your newly adopted family member might have cancer, Dr. Rizzo specializes in Oncology and is offering a free initial consultation appointment for adopted animals within 6 months of adoption. Patients should be referred by their primary care veterinarian and proof of adoption site and date should be brought to your consultation appointment. Diagnostics are not included.

If your newly adopted family member is having eye problems, Dr. Boyd specializes in Ophthalmology and is offering a free initial consultation appointment for adopted animals within 6 months of adoption. Patients should be referred by their primary care veterinarian and proof of adoption site and date should be brought to your consultation appointment. Some ophthalmic diagnostics might be included.

Ridgetop Animal Hospital

1193 Tahoe Lane, Silverdale, WA 98383
Phone: 360-692-7387

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Tender Touch Animal Hospital

27099 Miller Bay Rd Ste C, Kingston, WA 98370
Phone: 360-881-0099

One complimentary office visit within one month of adoption date.

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

University Place Veterinary Hospital

6715 Regents Blvd W, University Place, WA
Phone: 253-565-4040

One complimentary wellness examination within four weeks of your adoption date.

VCA Central Kitsap

2238 NW Bucklin Hill Rd, Ste 100, Silverdale, WA 98383
Phone: 360-692-6162
24-HOUR EMERGENCY CARE

VCA Olympic Animal Hospital

3422 NW Byron St, Silverdale, WA 98383
Phone: 360-692-0919

One complimentary office visit and physical examination for all adopted pets. This includes a complimentary dose of Revolution for the prevention of parasites including fleas. Must be redeemed within two weeks of adoption.

Wheaton Way Veterinary Hospital

1216 Ivy Rd, Bremerton, WA 98310
Phone: 360-377-0078

One complimentary wellness examination within four weeks of your adoption date.

Winslow Animal Clinic Inc.

800 Erickson Ave NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
Phone: 206-842-6621
One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Woodside Animal Hospital

1601 Woods Rd SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Phone: 360-871-3335

Email: contact@woodsideanimalhospital.com

One complimentary office visit will be provided at no charge within 14 days of adoption. Any diagnostics, vaccines or medications will be an additional charge.

4 Paws Veterinary Clinic

9822 SW Gorsuch Rd, Vashon, WA 98070
Phone: 206-567-7782

Free Wellness Exam within two weeks of adoption.

Resource Information:

Dumb Friends League: <http://www.ddfl.org/pdf/behavior-handout>

Declawing

Kitsap Humane Society does not support the practice of declawing and actively discourages any potential adopter from what is essentially a painful and unnecessary mutilation. Declawing is not a simple or routine surgery. It should never be done as a “preventative,” especially in kittens. Despite their reputation for independence, cats can readily be trained to leave the sofa, curtains, or carpet untouched.

Why do people declaw their cats?

- To protect furniture or other property (95%)
- They tried one or two things to train the cat but it didn't work
- To stop the cat from scratching them

What is declawing?

Too often, people think that declawing is a simple surgery that removes a cat's nails—the equivalent of having your fingernails trimmed. Sadly, this is far from the truth. Declawing traditionally involves the amputation of the last bone of each toe. If performed on a human being, it would be like cutting off each finger at the last knuckle.

How is a cat declawed?

The standard method of declawing is amputating with a scalpel or guillotine clipper. The wounds are closed with stitches or surgical glue, and the feet are bandaged.

Another method is laser surgery, in which a small, intense beam of light cuts through tissue by heating and vaporizing it. However, it's still the amputation of the last toe bone of the cat and carries with it the same long-term risks of lameness and behavioral problems as does declawing with scalpels or clippers.

After effects

Medical drawbacks to declawing include pain, infection, tissue necrosis (tissue death), lameness, and back pain. Removing claws changes the way a cat's foot meets the ground and can cause pain similar to wearing an uncomfortable pair of shoes. There can also be a regrowth of improperly removed claws, nerve damage, and bone spurs. This pain and discomfort can often result in behavioral problems with the cat, including litter box issues, biting, and an overall unhappy demeanor.

Alternative Options

Scratching is normal cat behavior. It isn't done to destroy a favorite chair or to get even. Many countries feel so strongly about the issue that they have banned the procedure. But you don't have to let your cat destroy your house- Here's what you can do:

- Keep his claws trimmed to minimize damage to household items.
- Provide stable scratching posts and boards around your home.
- Cover your cat's nails with soft plastic caps (like Soft Paws®) that are glued to the cat's nails.

- They need to be replaced about every six weeks but will prevent any damage from scratching. Have your vet assist with applying them to ensure safe and proper placement.

Indoor Cats vs. Outdoor Cats

If you plan to let your cat outdoors, there are many things to consider. First, take in to consideration the cats age, color, mobility, and any medical concerns. Cats who have been previously declawed, cats who have mobility issues, cats who are seniors, cats who are light-colored, and adult cats who have not previously had access to the outdoors may not be safe to place outside. In addition, kittens should not be allowed to go outside until they are fully vaccinated, and are at least 6 months old. If you live on a busy road, or in a rural area where there is a risk of predators, use caution when letting your cat outdoors.

If you decide to let your cat outside

If you have a cat who may not be safe to be on its own outside, there are alternatives! You can take your cat outside on a leash and harness, so it can spend time with you in the great outdoors and get some fresh air, but still be safe from wandering off. You can also build an enclosed “catio” on your deck.

If you have a cat that is safe to have indoor/outdoor access, there are a few things you want to do to ensure your cat returns home stays safe from predators and vehicles:

- Make sure your cat is fully vaccinated before allowing it to have outdoor access.
- When bringing a new cat home, keep your cat inside for the first 10 to 12 weeks before allowing it to start having access to the outdoors. During this time, work on teaching it a recall command so it will come back to you. You can do this by giving it high value treats or wet food at approximately the same time each night, and saying a recall command, such as “Here, kitty kitty!” Over time, the cat will learn that it gets delicious food or treats when it hears that cue, and will start coming when called. It is best to try to keep your cat inside at night.
- When you start allowing your cat to have outdoor access, first take your cat out on a leash and harness, so it can get comfortable with the sights, sounds, and smells of the great outdoors while still being supervised.
- Keep a reflective collar on your cat, so cars can see your cat at night. Ensure it is a quick-release collar. Also keep an ID tag on your cat so it can be returned to you if lost.
- Inform your neighbors that you have a new cat that will have outdoor access, so they do not think it is a stray cat.
- If there are predators in your area, provide feral safe houses outside, so there are safe places for your cat to hide from predators. There are many inexpensive DIY suggestions on how to make feral houses online.

Keeping your indoor cat happy

Provide your indoor cat with a variety of different interactive toys to keep them physically and mentally stimulated. Indoor cats should be provided with appropriate surfaces on which to exercise their natural instinct to scratch. Cats have individual preferences, and many prefer to have a variety of scratching posts and surfaces, so be sure to offer your cat several types in multiple locations around your house. Your house may already provide climbing opportunities on furniture, shelves or cabinets, but you may also want to have climbing areas specifically for your cat, such as a cat tree. You can also give your cat access to several windows which will give her the opportunity to both sunbathe and watch the world from the safety of your home. If you have narrow windowsills, consider installing a cat perch on several windows so your kitty has a place to stretch out and enjoy the view. Shelves made especially for this purpose can be purchased at most pet supply stores.

Aversives For Cats

An aversive is something that your cat finds unpleasant. It can be used to discourage her from a particular action or place. Aversives are most effective when you also offer a pleasant alternative to the place or action you need your pet to avoid. Please experiment cautiously and sparingly when choosing an aversive as individual responses will vary. An aversive that is mildly unpleasant for one cat may be terrifying for another and have no effect on yet another. The goal is to apply the aversive at a level that will cause your cat to avoid the action or place without becoming fearful.

Using Textures as Aversives

Apply these textures to places you need your cat to avoid, and add toys or treats to appropriate places to make them more attractive.

Indoors:

Shelf paper (sticky side up); Double-sided carpet tape ; Heavy foil

Outdoors:

Irregular or sharp rocks, firmly set into dirt; Chicken wire, firmly set into dirt (sharp edges rolled under)

Both:

Heavy plastic carpet runner (pointed side up)

You may need to weight the aversive material firmly or tape it to keep it in place. To protect furniture or floor finishes from sticky substances, attach the material to a piece of foil or heavy plastic and secure that with weights or light tape. Easy-to-attach, commercial varieties of texture aversives are available from most pet supply stores.

Introducing Your New Cat to Other Pets

It's important to have realistic expectations when introducing a new pet to a resident pet. Some cats are more social and do well with meeting new pets, while others will need more time to feel safe and comfortable in their new home and with their new housemates. Cats are territorial and need to be introduced to other animals very slowly in order to give them time to get use to each other before there is a face-to-face confrontation. Slow introductions help prevent fearful or aggressive situations from arising.

Confinement

Confine your new cat to one medium-sized room with her litter box, food, water, and a bed. Feed your resident pets and the newcomer on each side of the door to this room. This will help all of them to associate something enjoyable (eating!) with the other's smells. Don't put the food so close to the door that the animals are too upset by each other's presence to eat. Gradually move the dishes closer to the door until your pets can eat calmly, directly on either side of the door. Next, use doorstops to prop open the door just enough to allow the animals to see each other and repeat the whole process.

Swap Scents and Switch Living Areas

Switch sleeping blankets or beds between your new cat and your resident animals so they have a chance to become accustomed to each other's scents. Rub a towel on one animal and put it underneath the food dish of another animal. You should do this with each animal in the house. After your new cat is using her litter box and eating regularly while confined, let her have free time in the house while confining your other animals to the new cat's room. This switch provides another way for the animals to experience each other's scents without a face-to-face meeting. It also allows the newcomer to become familiar with her new surrounds without being frightened by the other animals.

Contact Stage

Begin short, supervised meetings through a barrier, such as a baby gate. Gradually increase the time the animals are allowed to interact, based off of their behavior. If meets are going well, you can begin supervised meetings without a barrier. Have resident pets meet your new cat one at a time so the new cat isn't overwhelmed. Cats should be allowed to roam freely (do not hold or retrain them) and should have an escape route to run away if frightened (such as out of the room or up a cat tree). Dogs should be kept on leash. If initial meetings go well, you can gradually increase the number of resident pets your new cat meets at once, until eventually all animals are happy coexisting. Dogs should not be left unsupervised with new cats until several weeks have past and you are confident they are safe to be left alone together.

Avoid Fearful and Aggressive Meetings

Avoid any interactions between your pets that result in either fearful or aggressive behavior. If these responses are allowed to become a habit, they can be difficult to change. It's better to introduce your pets to each other gradually so that neither animal becomes afraid or aggressive. You can expect mild forms of these behaviors, but don't give them the opportunity to intensify. If either animal becomes fearful or

aggressive, separate them, and start over with the introduction process in a series of very small, gradual steps, as outlined above.

They Don't Need Much, But They Do Need You

You help when you adopt an animal, when you attend and support one of our special events, and when your generous donation arrives to support the animals at KHS. Most important, you give them all hope for a future full of love and happiness.

What is the power of your gift?

- \$30 is the average cost of an animal's care for one day at the shelter.
- \$75 will support one spay/neuter surgery.
- \$150 would give an animal in need of behavioral rehabilitation 3 hours with a trainer.
- \$210 is enough to support the care for a kitten at our shelter for one week.
- \$250 could support the cost of one medical procedure to help save an animal's life
- \$500 will pay for the medicine needed to treat a sick animal for one week.
- \$900 would cover the expenses for an animal at our shelter for one month.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution today to help homeless animals in Kitsap County!



DONATE BY MAIL:

Kitsap Humane Society
9167 Dickey Road NW
Silverdale, WA 98383

DONATE ONLINE:

www.kitsap-humane.org/financial-contributions or
using this QR code (left) with your smart phone.



All of the information in this packet and
much more can be found on our website:
www.kitsap-humane.org



Thank you again for choosing to rescue!