



Kitten Care Sheet

Thank you for purchasing “Belle” from KMS Bengals! This sheet has information about your new kitten to help ease the transition from our home to yours. Each kitten is different, and care will depend on your kitten’s specific needs.

Introduction to Your Home

Once you bring your KMS Bengal home with you, we recommend that you provide them with a space where they can feel calm and safe until they become accustomed to their new surroundings. The best way to do that is to let them start in a small room in your house such as a bedroom, bathroom or corner of a main room with their wet food, water, litter and the kennel and blanket you brought them home with. Just open the kennel door and let the kitten decide when they want to come out and how much they want to come out. Don’t worry if they don’t eat until they have had ample time to smell and explore their new surroundings. You can be in the room with them, but make sure they feel they can explore the area and you BEFORE you try to hold them. If you have patience with the first stages, it sets a solid foundation of security as they learn about you and your home. She may cry or hide in “kitten” safe areas for up to 48 hours. It is scary and a bit stressful to leave their litter mates and the familiar surroundings they have known since birth. If you have small children, please tell them to be kind and slow around the new kitten so they don’t scare their new family friend. Please show them the proper way to hold a kitten. Bengals are wonderful with children and make great companions. Ultimately, be relaxed around your new kitten as they will pick up on any nervousness or anxiety. The more relaxed the new owners, the less issues you will have with the cat. Once the kitten is confident in their “space” and doesn’t get scared when you enter the room, you can then start let them explore more of your home. If the kitten gets scared, always let them go back to their “space.” If you close all other doors in the home, you will be able to help the kitten find their way back. Another thing that will prevent the kitten from running and hiding in a random spot will be that you let THEM explore your house on their terms. That means that you shouldn’t introduce them to an upstairs bathroom and then pick them up, take them downstairs into your living room and expect them to find it. Most often, patience is best in the first few days. Our kittens have been in our home with us since they were born so they should adjust easily.

Litter Boxes

KMS Bengals have been using open litter pans with 6”-12” sides. We use Arm & Hammer Slide Multi-Cat litter. We also use Arm & Hammer Double Duty Litter Deodorizer. Please use the same litter to start, at least for the first week or two, and then slowly mix in the new litter you would like to use with ours until it is completely the new litter. The layout of our litter boxes started out in all corners of the living room and have been condensed to one now. We recommend that you have multiple pans when your kitten is adjusting to your home and then

you can downsize by bringing the boxes closer together slowly and then eliminating one once they seem to know where it is. This usually takes a month.

Start off with one in their “space” and one in the living room, (if that is where the family gathers), and then adjust from there. Please don’t put the litter box on another floor or in a laundry room as they will not be able to find it. We place our litter boxes within view of the kittens’ food and water. We suggest that you show them the litter box once you have seen them drink or eat so they for sure know where to go. **Our kittens are fully litter box trained when they leave our home, but they may, on a rare occasion, become confused and have accidents when they first get to their new home. Please be patient with your kitten.** It is more traumatic for some kittens than others when they leave the comfort and familiarity of our cattery.

As strange as it may seem, we include a small bag of clean litter from their litter box at our house so you can sprinkle it on top of the litter box you have for them. The more familiar the smells, the better. 😊



Introduction to Pets

If you have other pets in the home, the best way to introduce them is to place the kitten in a carrier or kennel and place it in the middle of the room and let everyone sniff each other. There may be hissing and spitting at first, and this is normal, but it should only last for more than a few days. Supervised play time is recommended until everyone is used to each other. Sometimes the first time you let the kitten out of the kennel in the room with your dog, it is best to have the dog on a leash, just in case. Most often, they just need the first “free” encounter to be super calm and controlled and then everything is fine after that. **If you have other felines in the house, you MUST isolate your kitten for 2 weeks, otherwise you will void our health warranty.**

First Vet Visit

Our contract recommends that you take your new kitten to your vet within 3 business days, unless you notify us, then the longest we will honor is 5 business days. **You will void the health warranty if the kitten become ill and it has not been seen by your vet within that time.** The Kittens’ immune systems are still developing, and sometimes, the stress of the move will lower their immunity and make them more susceptible to infections. Your kitten has been checked by our vet and deemed healthy and able to transition to their new home. If your new kitten starts to show signs of an infection (conjunctivitis, upper respiratory, etc.) or diarrhea, please notify us right away. **Our warranty is void if the kitten has not been isolated for the 2 weeks because there would be no way to tell where the kitten contracted the infection.**

Food

Our kittens have been fed a mix of dry, canned and raw food. Our canned food is currently a mix of the Rachel Ray's Chicken and Peak Wetlands Catch. Our adult cats eat the Rachel Ray's and the kittens have been eating the RR's because it is good for them as well. The dry is always available to them. They have had chunks of raw chicken, beef and ground beef. With the ground beef, we did mix in the canned food so as to be sure they were getting the nutrients they needed. We feed the raw food once a day and we aim for late evening so they don't wake us up to early! ☺ For the canned, they get ½ - ¾ a can a day. We have found if you feed this too much, they will stop eating the dry. If you want to do all canned, we recommend the highest quality that you can do. Instinct is one of our favorites. We provided you a small bag of the dry mix and 2 cans of food for your convenience. We suggest that you feed the same food for at least the first 2 weeks and then start to change them over to what you will be feeding over another 2 weeks. They have very sensitive stomachs so any transition with their food should be slow. This eliminates the amount of change they experience all at once. We recommend that you keep them on kitten food until they are 12 months old and then you can move them to adult food.



Toys

Bengals love toys! Ours love the feather balls with the rattle on the inside, the feather wands, laser pointers, scratching towers, cat trees and boxes! They are very active cats and love to have variety!

Socialization & Training

Bengals are very smart but very active. Please don't let them play rough with your children. When they are fully grown, they will continue to play rough. We don't let them playfully bite or claw our hands, even in the sleeve of our shirts. This teaches them to not play with us with their claws or teeth. If they do try to bite or claw, say "NO" firmly and then give them something they can play that way with. Be consistent and firm with your kitten so they can learn early on what is acceptable and what is not. Most importantly, enjoy your kitten from KMS Bengals!