



Save a Life

MISSISSAUGA HUMANE SOCIETY

www.mississaugahumanesociety.com

905-271-0883

What should I do as a Foster Parent of a CAT?

By opening your home and heart to a cat/cats in need, you save the life of an otherwise homeless animal. All cats under our care have an initial veterinary examination, are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. **We provide the food and medical care. You provide the love, care, socialisation and your home.** The feeling of accomplishment and eventual joy that comes with knowing that a pet has been saved and is in a loving home, is wonderful!

- (1) **We hope you can be committed to the foster program until the cat is adopted. The amount of time needed can vary from weeks to months. If, for any reason, you cannot continue, we request that you give us at least two weeks' notice.**
- (2) Since you as the foster parent will know the cat best, we would ask that you help us to screen the potential adopter – Screening questionnaire, guidelines and instructions will be provided. Advice will be given if necessary. We would also request that you make your home available to a prospective adopter.
- (3) **Be prepared for some adjustment problems in the beginning. It can be stressful for both you and the cat to be in a new situation.**
- (4) For any health/behavioural issues, we can always provide professional advice/training.

“With time, patience, knowledge & LOVE, most pet problems can be solved.”

Arriving your HOME

- (1) For the first few weeks pay special attention when you open the front door/garage door/patio door/backyard gate/window/screen window, as a new cat may tend to get out given the chance!
- (2) **Ideally the cat should be placed in a separate room for the first 2 weeks. The room needs to be quiet and secure and preferably without too much furniture for the cat to hide behind. This room is especially important if you have your own cat(s) (who should be neutered/spayed, is/are fully vaccinated, and of course, healthy)!**
- (3) The cat should be kept **strictly INDOORS**, and **NOT ALLOWED OUTSIDE** under ANY circumstances.
- (4) **Cat-proof your home! Ensure doors and windows (including screen windows) are closed properly. Watch out for loose electrical cords and dispose of any poisonous plants that the cat can reach.**
- (5) Besides feeding the cat 2-3 meals a day, a bowl of fresh water should always be available.
- (6) **Try to allow time for play and socialization for the cat on a daily basis.**
- (7) **If you need supplies, please give us at least one week's notice.**
- (8) **If you notice something wrong with the cat, call us as soon as possible.**

Please also read our pamphlet [“BRINGING A NEW CAT HOME”](#)