



What to Expect with your New Cat

Congrats on your new pet!

We know how exciting it is to have a new pet arrive at your home. Just remember that for the next couple days, *everything* will be new to your pet. Meeting a new family and moving into a new environment is a lot to take in so try to avoid overwhelming your pet and exposing them to too much at once. Expect there to be a period of adjustment before your pet settles in and gets comfortable to its' new family and home.

For the first few days, your cat may meow, howl, hiss or pace due to the anxiety of being in a new place.

Since your cat will be stressed in the beginning, you may also want to avoid feeding him/her large meals to avoid your pet getting sick. Also, if you are changing your pets' diet, expect there to be some digestion upset that could lead to vomiting or diarrhea.

If you have other cats at home, it is often best to keep them separate for the first couple days. You should set up a private room for your cat with a litter box, toys, food and water bowl. Your existing cats and your new cat can sniff each other at the door or reach under with their paws to get acquainted. After a couple days, if there is no hissing, growling or obvious fear, you can let them meet. If they are still having some issues, you may want to switch spaces for your cats (have your existing cats stay in the private room while your new cat comes out) and allow them to get used to each others' scents without actually meeting. When they seem comfortable meeting, we recommend having treats and toys available. This way, they do not focus too much on each other but instead can eat and play in the same vicinity, associating the new kitty as something positive.

It can take a couple weeks for your pet to adjust to a new home. With just a little patience, your cat can become an amazing addition to your family. Have fun and enjoy your kitty!