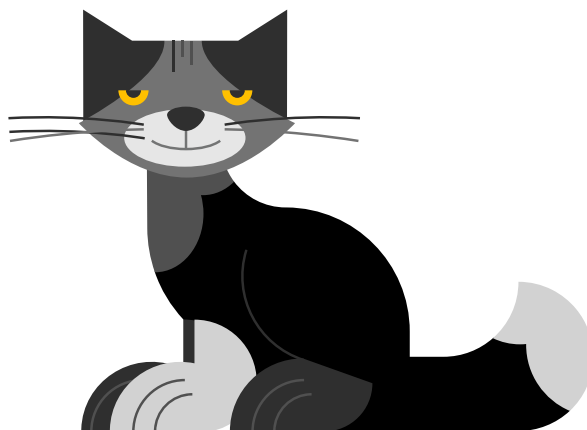




Angie's Stray Foundation, Inc.  
*"all for her"*

CAT + KITTEN

# Foster Guide



No matter what level of experience you have as a foster, our goal is to help guide your fostering journey with Angie's Stray Foundation.

# Welcome

Thank you for volunteering to foster with Angie's Stray Foundation (ASF)! We are happy to have you on our team. Together we can make a difference and save lives. ASF has a great group of volunteer coordinators to help support you every step of the way!



## Our Story

Angie's Stray Foundation was founded in Oxford, PA in 2021 by Ruth Jenkins and named after Angie, Ruth's rescue dog. Angie was found severely injured after she was beaten and left for dead in a field. Angie inspired Ruth to continue to rescue other dogs and cats in need. Along with the support of the community, and a group of dedicated volunteers, we continue to honor Angie by saving others like her. Today, ASF is a foster-based, registered 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to helping stray and neglected dogs and cats in Chester County, PA and the surrounding areas.

## All For Her

### In Memory of Angie

"In 2017, I rescued and fostered a dog that had been beaten, her jaw shattered. I helped her heal with the help of the community, and she helped me heal my heart. She taught me strength and resilience.

She passed suddenly in 2019. No words can describe the heartbreak. I love you and will miss forever. Rest In peace, Angie."

**Ruth Jenkins**

Founder Angie's Stray Foundation





# Deciding to Foster



Angie's Stray Foundation, Inc.  
*"all for her"*

[www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org](http://www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org)

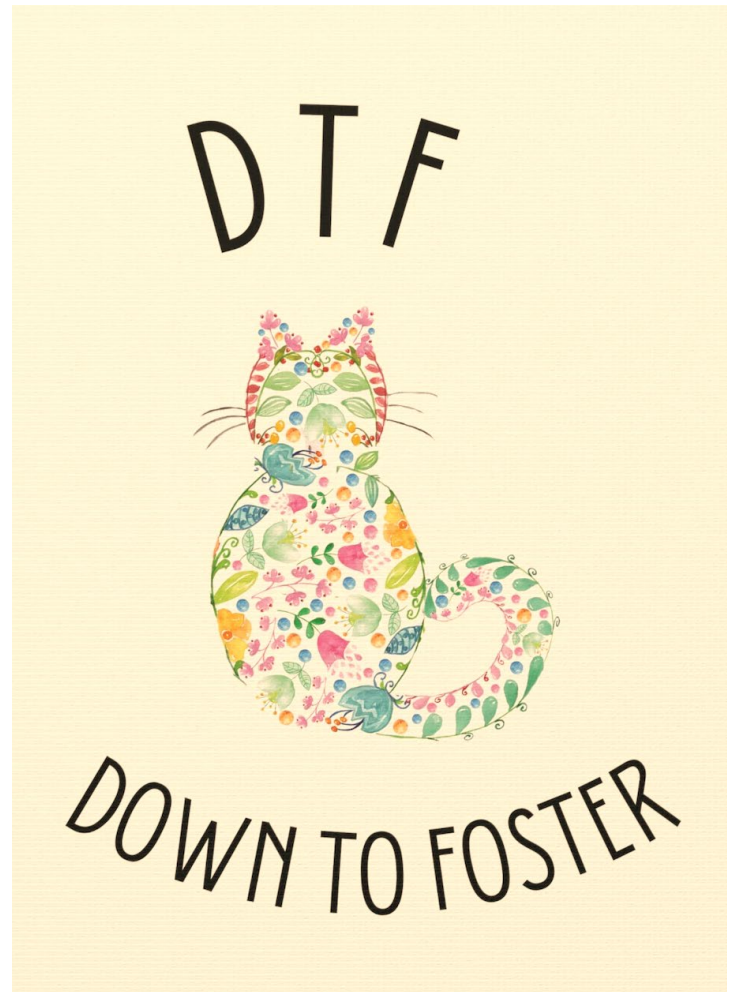
# Why Foster a Cat?

## Benefits of Fostering

Fostering provides a safe and loving environment for cats to decompress and learn how to be part of a family. Temporarily welcoming a cat or kitten into your home is an extremely rewarding and selfless act. A cat can enrich your life in many ways including reducing stress and loneliness.

Fosters provide shelter and care in order to successfully prepare cats to find their forever homes. Fostering also helps animal shelters save more cats by freeing up a spot in their facilities. Additionally, you are reducing the unwanted pet population as ASF ensures that fosters get spayed or neutered.

The one-on-one attention that fosters provide makes a big difference! Plus, fostering cats or kittens doesn't involve a lifetime commitment, but still makes an immeasurable impact..



# Considerations + Expectations

## Considerations Before Committing

Take time to consider the following when making your decision to foster:

- Be sure everyone in your household members is committed. *This includes those not directly related to foster care.*
- Be practical about your own pets and their tolerance of other cats.
- Be realistic about the time you can devote to care, socialize, and train.
- Be thoughtful about what types of cats you are willing to foster. *ASF gets all kinds including those with medical needs, moms with kittens, bottle babies, and even fearful strays.*
- Be clear about your own expectations. *Fostering takes time, patience and doesn't have an expiration date.*
- Be courageous and ask questions. *There are no silly questions. If you think of a question, chances are someone else has that same one.*

## Expectations:

Being a foster is time consuming and sometimes challenging but is also very rewarding. At a minimum, you'll need to commit to:

- Complete all paperwork and maintain copies of all records.
- Provide a healthy and safe environment.
- Transport to and from vet appointments. when needed. *We will do our best to work within your schedule.*
- Dedicate time to socialize and cuddle to teach positive relationships.
- Provide lots of exercise and positive stimulation.
- Train on the basics (e.g., using the litter box, staying off counters) to increase adoptability.
- Share pictures and videos to help get your foster adopted.

# Communication

## Communication Between ASF + Our Fosters

The preferred method of communication is through Facebook Messenger. A private Foster Chat is created for each foster that includes all ASF Coordinators. This ensures that you have a direct line of communication to the amazing ASF team who can help with:

Answering all your questions

Coordinating appointments to provide your foster with all the care they need (e.g., spay/neuter, vaccines, deworming, etc.)

Providing you with supplies

Helping get your foster adopted by promoting them on social media and planning and inviting you to adoption events

To help you get the quickest response, be sure to post in your Foster Chat. This includes pictures, copies of vet records, and updates about your foster's progress.

Communication  
is Key

MEOW!



# ASF Online

## Social Media

ASF has a Facebook presence. We use our pages and group to share information with the local community (without whom we could not save so many lives), find potential adopters, and share information with all fosters.

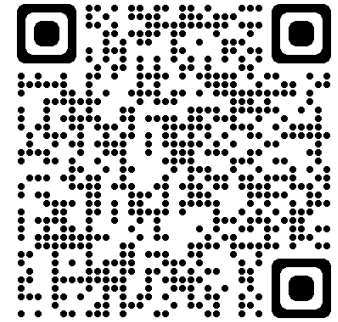
Angie's Stray Foundation  
Community Group



Angie's Stray Foundation  
Volunteer/Foster Group



Angie's Stray  
Foundation, Inc.



We also have a group chat, ASF Cat/Kitten Fosters that is used to communicate information that everyone needs to know.

## Web

The ASF official webpage is: <https://angiesstrayfoundation.org/>. The QR Codes below can be shared to connect to mobile friendly views of ASF's adoptables and for ways to donate.

Angie's Stray Foundation  
Petfinder Listings



Angie's Stray Foundation  
Donation Page



# Record Keeping

## Committing to Paperwork

We must maintain detailed records of all the animals currently in ASF's care. This ensures that all receive the care they need, are best prepared to find their forever homes, and ASF follows all legal requirements needed to maintain our 501(c)(3), non-profit status.

Keeping track of paperwork is not the most fun part of being a foster but it is truly one of the most important. Fosters must commit to keeping good records and sharing them with ASF Coordinators through your Foster Chat.

### ***Foster Agreement + Waiver of Liability***

All fosters must have a signed agreement and waiver of liability on file with ASF. Complete the online [Foster Agreement & Liability Waiver](#) in its entirety.

### ***Maintaining and Sharing Records***

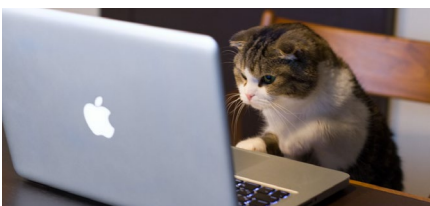
For all appointments including spay and neuter and vet visits, be sure to ask for a copy of the paperwork that outlines the treatment given. Snap a picture of the record and email it to [records@angiesstrayfoundation.org](mailto:records@angiesstrayfoundation.org).

### ***Billing***

Most veterinarians are familiar with our billing process. All invoices should be sent to [records@angiesstrayfoundation.org](mailto:records@angiesstrayfoundation.org) for payment.

### **Adoption Paperwork**

Be sure to review the Adoption Ready section of this guide for additional information on required and important paperwork.



If we don't have a record, we cannot prove that it was done.

# Protecting Confidential Information

Within animal rescue, trust and integrity are the foundation of our mission. As caretakers and advocates for the wellbeing of cats and dogs, we have a duty to uphold the highest standards of confidentiality.

## ***Why Confidentiality of Veterinary Records Matters:***

- **Protection of Privacy and Dignity:** Just as individuals expect privacy in their medical records, animals deserve the same respect. Maintaining the confidentiality of veterinary records protects the animal.
- **Building Trust with Stakeholders:** Upholding confidentiality of records is essential for building trust with providers, pet owners, adopters, and fosters.
- **Legal and Ethical Compliance:** Adhering to confidentiality protocols for veterinary records is a matter of ethical responsibility and legal compliance.

## ***Why Confidentiality of Internal Processes and Communication is Vital:***

- **Protecting Operational Integrity:** Our internal processes, standards, and communications contain essential information about ASF operations and are considered proprietary information.
- **Fostering a Culture of Trust:** Confidentiality fosters a culture of trust and accountability within our organization.
- **Enhancing Collaboration and Innovation:** By ensuring confidentiality, we create a safe space for ASF fosters and volunteers to share ideas, provide feedback, and engage in constructive dialogue, all which support the animals in our care.
- **Legal Compliance and Risk Management:** Confidentiality in all internal processes and communication is essential for legal compliance and risk management.

By safeguarding sensitive information, we reduce the risk of legal liabilities and reputational harm and affirm our unwavering commitment to the wellbeing of the animals we serve and the values that define our organization.



# Preparing for Your Foster



[www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org](http://www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org)

# Fostering Key Steps

While every foster experience differs, these simple steps will help to make your foster experience a positive one and position the cat(s) or kitten(s) in your care for a successful adoption.



Prior to Placement		
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Complete the <a href="#">Foster Agreement &amp; Liability Waiver</a> .	Online
Preparing for Your Foster		
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Set up a safe and secure space for your foster to be quarantined and decompress.	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Determine what supplies you need and share in your Foster Chat.	
After Receiving Your Foster		
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Conduct health assessment.	18, 41-42
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Arrange for deworming.	22-26
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Arrange for vaccinations.	28-29
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Arrange for FIV/FelV testing and spay/neuter.	30-31
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Help ASF keep updated records.	43
Application Approvals + Adoption Day		
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Planning adoption day.	38
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Prepare adopter packet.	44-45

All animal intake requests must be approved by Ruth Jenkins. Once approved, you will be contacted by the ASF Team for placement.

# Preparation + Supplies

In anticipation of receiving fosters, please advise on any supplies you may need using your Foster Chat. Each situation is different and the type and amount of supplies you need will depend on the age(s) and number of fosters. If you are not sure what to request, please ask for guidance. We are here to help you through every step of this process.

Many times, the cats and kittens we receive are wary of people and often come to ASF without having had any vet care. **You'll want to keep your foster(s) quarantined from your own pets and other fosters for 14 days.**

Prepare a quiet and safe space in your home where your foster(s) can spend the first few days. A spare room or bathroom work well.

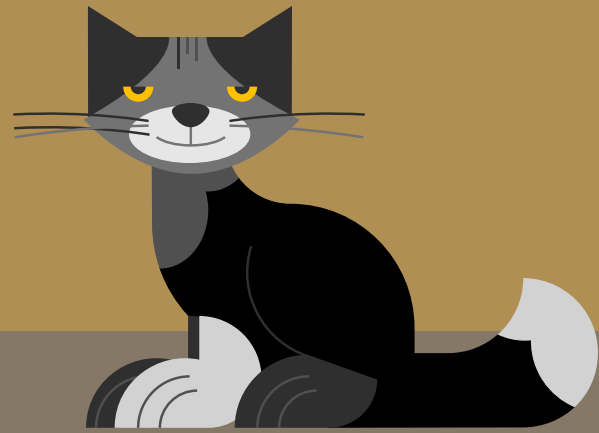
Some cats and kittens do better if they are kept in a crate for the first days or weeks of their stay with you. Ask how you can use a crate divider or small pet hammock to make your crate more engaging and best utilize the space.

Cat proof each room your foster will be in, as you would for a toddler.

## Supplies

- |                                   |                                     |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys       | <input type="checkbox"/> Empty Cardboard Box |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Scratching Post     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Litter   | <input type="checkbox"/> Scoop      | <input type="checkbox"/> Carrier             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet Bed  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cat Tree   | <input type="checkbox"/> Crate               |





# Receiving for Your Foster



[www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org](http://www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org)

# Day One at Home

Once your foster have been brought into your home, the quarantine period begins. In most cases we do not have health histories for the animals that come into our care. **Remember, quarantining is a must as it's a critical step in keeping all of the animals in our care (and our own pets) safe.** It also gives time for your foster(s) to get used to their new surroundings.

**A very important role that fosters play is maintaining copies of your foster(s) records. This includes entering information into necessary systems, sharing copies of records with coordinators, and ensuring that you've completed your [Foster Agreement & Liability Waiver](#). It's not the most fun part of the job but it is critical in ASF's ability to continue rescuing animals.**

When you receive your foster, you will get a copy of any existing vet records. Be sure to post pictures within your Foster Chat of all paperwork. If you do not receive records, be sure to double check using your Foster Chat to ensure there are no records available.

## ***Be Patient***

It's important to go slow with your foster. Everything is new to them, and they need time to adjust. Take time to earn their trust and read their body language. Don't push. Remember that slow and steady wins the race; it does not mean that you are not doing a good job. Your foster is in charge of the acceptance and trust timetable.

Here are some additional tips:

Do what you can when your foster feels safe enough to allow it.

As they become comfortable, check your cat over nonchalantly.

Cats can sense nervousness, anxiety, or aggression from you. Focus on helping them feel safe, and do what you can, when you can.

**Vacation Plans? Let ASF Coordinators know using your Foster Chat to arrange temporary care for your foster(s) while you're gone.**

# The Importance of Decompression

When foster cats first arrive, they often experience stress and anxiety. This is especially true for cats who have been living outdoors or have come from crowded shelters or abusive and neglectful situations. Providing adequate time for decompression is crucial for your foster's well-being.

## Here's why decompression is critical:



### Reduce Stress

Decompression allows foster cats to acclimate gradually, minimizing stress levels associated with the sudden change.



### Observe Behavior

Decompression gives time to observe the cat's behavior, identify triggers, and work with ASF Coordinators to address specific needs.



### Building Trust

By providing a calm and predictable environment, foster cats learn to trust their caregivers, fostering a positive relationship.



### Prevent Overload

New environments can be overwhelming; decompression helps prevent sensory overload, ensuring a smoother transition.

## Follow these actions to help your foster successfully decompress.

- 1 PROVIDE A QUIET SPACE**  
Designate a quiet, comfortable space with a cozy bed or crate to create a secure environment.
- 2 ESTABLISH A 14-DAY QUARANTINE**  
Separate your foster from your household pets then allow gradual, supervised interactions.
- 3 USE A GENTLE TOUCH**  
Approach your foster calmly and use slow, gentle movements. Allow them to initiate contact.
- 4 BE PATIENT AND OBSERVE**  
Allow your foster to set the pace while observing body language for signs of stress or comfort.
- 5 CREATE A ROUTINE**  
Establish a daily routine for feeding, play, and bedtime. Consistency helps your foster feel secure.
- 6 ALLOW GRADUAL INTERACTIONS OVER TIME**  
Limit interactions with people and pets. Too many early introductions can overwhelm your foster.
- 7 PROVIDE ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**  
Provide mentally stimulating toys and activities to keep the cat engaged.
- 8 STAY CONNECTED**  
Regularly communicate with ASF Coordinators using your Foster Chat to share progress and concerns.

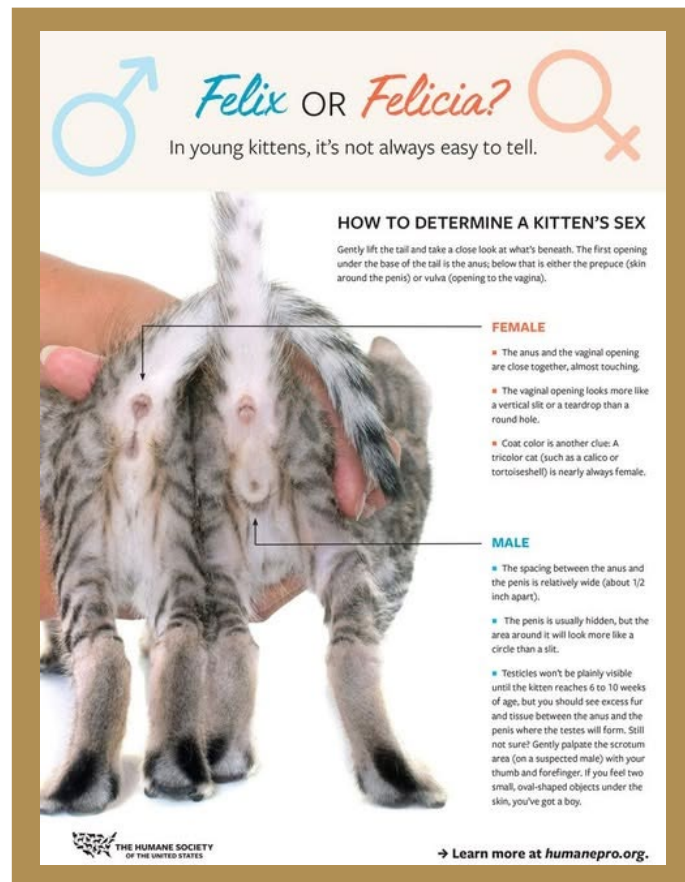
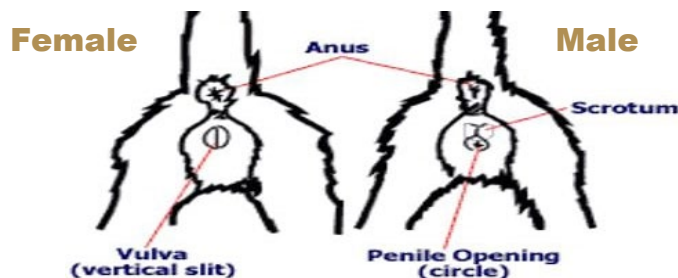
Remember, each foster cat is unique, and the decompression process may vary. Reach out to ASF Coordinators using your Foster Chat for help and be sure to report any concerning behaviors immediately.

# After Receiving Your Foster

## Determine Sex of Cats + Kittens

Determining the whether a kitty is male of female can be challenging, especially when they are very young.

- Female: the vulva appears more as a slit and is located below the anus and above the back legs.
- Male: the scrotum is located below the anus above the back legs.



## Naming Cats + Kittens

If your foster doesn't come with a name, you get to give them one! Be creative. Clever and fun names get noticed. If you have more than one, try using a theme. Names are identities and a link between a foster and potential adopters.

Once you've landed on a name it's important to stick with it. This will help your foster learn their name and ensure ASF is able to keep accurate records.

## Weighing Kittens + Cats

Getting a weight on squirming kittens and scaredy cats can be challenging.

- Weigh the cat in its carrier. Weigh the empty carrier then do the math.
- Use a small box and food scale. Be sure to zero out the box's weight.
- Hold the cat and hop on the scale. Weigh yourself then do the math.

# After Receiving Your Foster

## How Old is That Kitty?

Sometimes we get lucky and are given an age. Most often, we have to give our best estimate. Adult cats are challenging, ask the vet at their first appointment for an estimate. For kittens, there are some signs that help us make our best guess.

# HOW OLD IS THAT KITTEN?



Kittens are adorable at any age, but did you know that figuring out how old a kitten is can help determine what sort of care they need? It can be tricky to tell, but our at-a-glance kitten progression chart, featuring Darling the kitten, is here to help you out!



NEWBORN

When kittens are first born they are completely helpless—their **eyes are closed**, their **ears are folded**, and they can't stand, keep themselves warm, eliminate waste, or eat on their own. They rely on mom for everything!



ONE WEEK

Darling is starting to become **more aware of his surroundings!** At about seven days old, a kitten's ears will unfold and their eyes may start to open.



TWO WEEKS

Look at those blue peepers! Darling's **eyes are fully open**, and he is taking his **first wobbly steps**. Kittens this age start interacting more with each other, but still need mom.



THREE WEEKS

Darling's now playing with his siblings and getting more mobile. You should be able to **tell if kittens are boys or girls**. You can start providing a **litter box** and **wet food**.



FOUR WEEKS

Look how much Darling has grown! At four weeks kittens are **sturdy on their feet** and playing with each other, toys, and people.



FIVE WEEKS

Get ready for a lot of fun! Darling is now full of energy and **plays exuberantly**. **Interacting with people** is important for kittens at this age. Darling is developing lots of personality!



SIX WEEKS

Every day Darling is getting more sure of himself through socialization and play. He's **using the litter box** and **eating cat food**—though he still visits mom for snacks and comfort.



SEVEN WEEKS

Darling is **almost fully weaned**, and continues to play and learn. Being **introduced to new people, places** in the home, and **other pets** is an important part of socialization.



EIGHT WEEKS

Two pounds! Darling now **weighs enough to be neutered**. He's also getting more skilled and adventurous. Darling is learning so much from his mom, siblings, and human caregiver.



NINE WEEKS

Looking pretty grown-up, Darling! At this age kittens are behaving and using their body language like adult cats. Darling is **eating all solid food**, and his eyes have gone from blue to yellow.



TEN WEEKS

Darling is fully weaned, neutered, and—because he was socialized to people—**ready for his loving adoptive home**. They grow up so fast!

Get even more details (and cute pics!) with our week-by-week kitten progression resource at [alleycat.org/KittenProgression](http://alleycat.org/KittenProgression)

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## About Declawing

Declawing is misnomer that leads folks to believe that a cat has simply had their claws trimmed back. The reality is that declawing cats is a surgical process in which the front knuckles of the cat's toes are amputated. It can cause chronic pain, inflammation, nerve damage, infection, tissue death, lameness, and arthritis in cats. ASF does not support declawing.

# Assessing Your Foster's Health

## Conducting An Intake Health Assessment

The table below gives guidance on what to look for during the health assessment. The Health Assessment Form on pages 41-43 is also helpful.

If you find something concerning, share details in your Foster Chat. When possible, include photos and detailed descriptions. The information presented in the "What to do" column, indicates the typical course of action. **Do not administer any medications or treatment until you've consulted with an ASF coordinator.** They have much experience and will help you determine the best course of action including confirming medications and dosages.

	What to look for:	What to do:
<b>Body</b>	Check for lumps, bumps, and any other abnormalities.	Some issues will require a vet visit.
<b>Coat + Skin</b>	Look for wounds, hair loss, matting, crusting, redness, or inflammation.	Medicated shampoos can be effective in treating many coat + skin issues. For matting, a grooming appointment may be necessary.
<b>Ears</b>	Inspect inside and out, look for debris/discharge, malodor, redness, itchiness, inflammation, and possible ear mites.	Depending on the issue topical treatments may resolve the issue or a vet appointment may be needed.
<b>Eyes</b>	Inspect for discharge, redness, cloudiness.	Infected eyes can often be treated with Terramycin ointment but depending on severity or additional symptoms may require a vet visit.
<b>Nose</b>	Check for discharge and sneezing.	In most cases antibiotics are needed.
<b>Mouth</b>	Check for any abnormalities including ulcers, missing or broken teeth, and bad smelling breath.	Most mouth abnormalities require a vet visit.
<b>Fleas + Flea Dirt</b>	Look for black flakes that resemble pepper shaken in the cat's fur – this is flea dirt (poop). Check the "armpits" and groin area as this is the best place to spot adult fleas.	If live fleas are found, bathe in Dawn Original (Blue) Dish Soap, then use a flea comb to remove remaining fleas.
<b>Litter Box Usage</b>	Look for blood or signs of straining or crying when urinating. Examine stool for mucus, blood or parasites.	Depending on the issue, topical treatments may resolve the problem or a vet visit may be needed.

# Feeding Your Foster

## Recommendations for Feeding Your Fosters

Every cat is different. You'll need to monitor your foster's eating habits to ensure they maintain a healthy weight.

Kittens generally require more calories than adult cats. Pregnant and nursing moms should be given access to free feed. All cats need constant access to fresh water.

### *Kittens (0–12 months)\**

Kittens need **more frequent meals** and **more calories** to support growth. Wet food is strongly recommended as the main diet.

Age	Body Weight	Daily Calorie Needs	Daily Food Amount (Wet Food)	Daily Food Amount (Dry Food)	Meals/Day
0–4 weeks	n/a	n/a	Kitten formula only (every 2–3 hrs)	n/a	8–12 feedings
4–5 weeks	1–1.5 lb	~80–100 cal	3–4 oz wet + formula	<1 tbsp if offering	4–6
6–8 weeks	1.5–2 lbs	~120–150 cal	4–6 oz wet	1/8–1/4 cup	4
2–3 months	2–3 lbs	~150–200 cal	6–7 oz wet	1/4 cup	3–4
3–4 months	3–4 lbs	~200–240 cal	7–8 oz wet	1/4–1/3 cup	3
4–6 months	4–6 lbs	~240–325 cal	8–10 oz wet	1/3 cup	3
6–12 months	6–10 lbs	~250–350 cal	6–10 oz wet	1/3–1/2 cup	2–3

### **\*Important Notes:**

Wet food amounts assume 30–35 calories per ounce.

Growing kittens should never be on calorie-restricted diets.

# Feeding Your Foster

## Adult Cats (1–7 years)\*

Adults require steady maintenance calories. Wet food is ideal for hydration and weight control.

Adult Weight	Daily Calorie Needs	Daily Wet Food Amount	Daily Dry Food Amount	Meals/Day
6–8 lbs	180–220 cal	4–5.5 oz	¼ cup	2
8–10 lbs	200–250 cal	5.5–7 oz	¼–⅓ cup	2
10–12 lbs	220–280 cal	6–8 oz	⅓–½ cup	2
12–15 lbs	250–330 cal	7–9 oz	½ cup	2
15+ lbs	280–380+ cal (adjust for weight goals)	8–10+ oz	½–⅔ cup	2

## Senior Cats (7+ years)\*

Seniors may need either *more* or *fewer* calories depending on weight and health.

Condition	Daily Feeding Guidance
Healthy senior, normal weight	Follow adult guidelines
Underweight or muscle loss	Increase calories + wet food protein
Overweight	Reduce calories by 10–20%; switch to mostly wet food; feed 2–3 small meals
Dental issues	Soft/wet food only

### \*Important Notes:

Wet food amounts assume 30–35 calories per ounce.

Dry food amounts assume 350–450 calories per cup.

Growing kittens should never be on calorie-restricted diets.

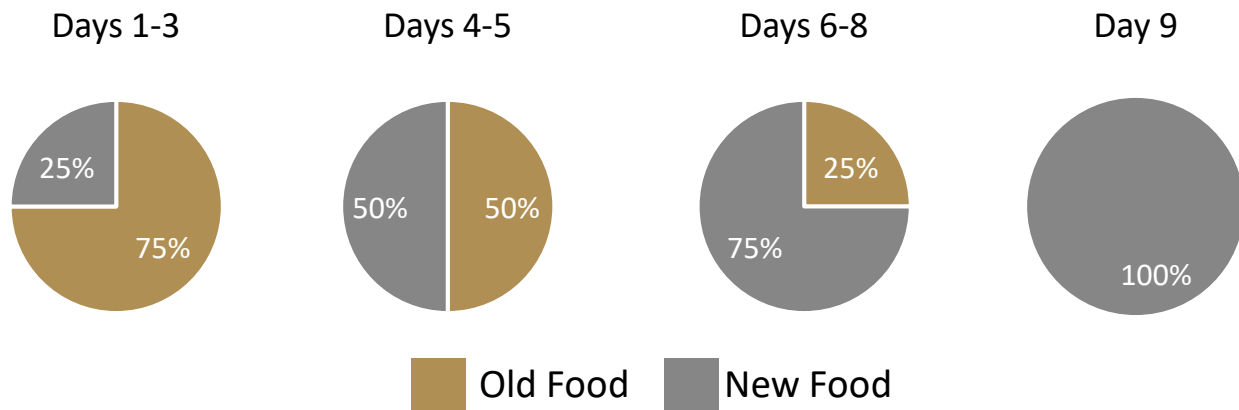


# Feeding Your Foster

## Requesting Supplies

As a non-profit organization, we rely on the generosity of local businesses and the community, usually in the form of donations. This means that at times you may need to change the brand and type of food your foster is eating. **Alert the ASF Team, using your Foster Chat, when your food supplies are at half.** This will enable you to gradually change over to a new diet if the food you are currently feeding is not in ASF stock. Fosters with allergies or prescription diets will be kept on their required food.

## Guide for Changing to a New Food



# Parasite

## ***Fleas***

**Consult with the ASF Coordinators, using your Foster Chat, prior to giving any flea treatments or medications.**

Fleas are tiny little pests that can cause big problems for your foster(s). Many cats and kittens have fleas. Here's what to look for:

Excessive itching, scratching and biting at their fur

Pepper sized flakes (flea dirt) on the skin within fur

Inflamed skin and/or dry patches

Matted or missing patches of fur



## ***Ticks***

There are at least 15 species of tick in the USA of which a few are harmful to humans, cats and dogs:

American Dog Tick is the most common tick in PA. It's also common in Southern states and coastal areas. These ticks can transmit serious diseases

Lone Star Tick lives in the underbrush in wooded areas, along rivers and even urban areas. They transmit diseases like ehrlichiosis and tularemia.

Black-legged Tick or "deer tick" can carry Lyme disease. It's found across the Northeast with infestations in several parts of PA.

**As soon as you notice something concerning,  
immediately contact ASF Coordinators using your Foster Chat.**

# Parasites

## How to Remove a Tick from a Cat

It's important to remove the tick promptly and correctly. Using a pair of tweezers is the most common and effective way to remove a tick. But not just any tweezers will work. Most household tweezers have large, blunt tips. You should use fine-point tweezers, to avoid tearing the tick and spreading possible infections into the bite area.

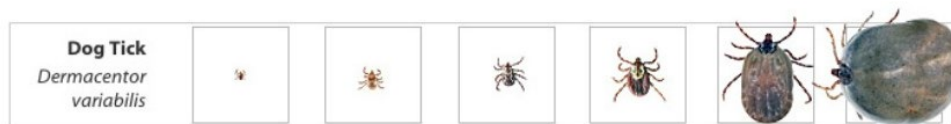
1. Spread your cat's fur.
2. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible using tweezers or a tick tool.
3. Very gently, pull straight upward, in a slow, steady motion. This will prevent the tick's mouth from breaking off and remaining embedded in the skin. People often believe it's the head of the tick that embeds in the skin. But ticks don't have heads, in the conventional sense, so what gets inserted into your cat is known as "mouth parts."
4. After you've removed the tick, make sure to wash your hands thoroughly, clean the bite site with rubbing alcohol, and rinse the tweezers or tool with disinfectant.



TickEncounter Resource Center ©



TickEncounter Resource Center ©



TickEncounter Resource Center ©



Never remove a tick with your fingers—it's ineffective and squeezing may further inject infectious material.



# Parasites

## Worms

Parasites in cats and kittens are very common. It's important to examine your foster's stool for signs of parasites. It's also possible that animals that are severely infested will vomit parasites. If that happens, be sure to disinfect the area.

Keeping litter boxes clean can also reduce the spread and possible re-infection. Post in your Foster Chat for guidance on treatment and the dosage needed for your foster's age and weight.

Some parasites are transmittable from cats to humans. Good hygiene minimizes the risk significantly. Wash your hands after medicating and playing with your foster and always after scooping and handling food dishes.



## Ringworm

Ringworm, as it is commonly called, is actually fungus. The fungus grows and lives in the outermost layer of skin, in hair follicles, and occasionally in the nails. The infection is superficial, and in most cases only affects a few areas of the cat's body. Kittens, senior cats, and immunocompromised cats sometimes suffer from more widespread ringworm infections.

Symptoms of ringworm include:

- Circular areas of hair loss
- Dry, brittle hair
- Scabby, inflamed skin
- Rough, brittle nails



Treating ringworm can consist of topical treatments, oral treatments and cleaning the contaminated areas.

# Parasites

## ***Ear Mites***

Ear mites are highly contagious parasites that live inside and around the ear canals. The most common species in cats (*Otodectes cynotis*) lives on the surface of the skin rather than burrowing into it. They are tiny—less than half a millimeter long—and usually need magnification to be seen clearly. While most common in cats and kittens, ear mites can also affect dogs, ferrets, and rabbits.

Ear mites cause intense itching, especially in young cats and kittens. The most common signs of an ear mite infestation in cats include:

- Scratching or rubbing at the ears
- Frequent head shaking
- Dark, crumbly ear discharge that resembles coffee grounds
- Redness or irritation inside the ears
- Hair loss, scabs, or skin irritation around the ears, head, and neck from scratching

Bacterial and yeast ear infections can look like ear mite infestations. If you suspect something is going on with your foster's ears, contact ASF Coordinators using your Foster Chat.

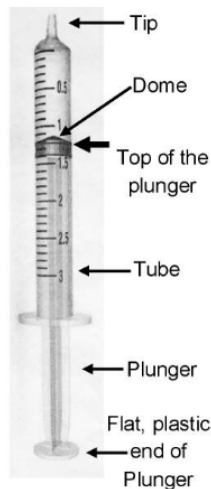


# Deworming

## Deworming Cats + Kittens

Even when we don't see worms, it's good to give deworming medication. In general, there are three medications we use. Usually, they require multiple doses given over a period of time. The medications we use are generally very safe.

Dosing is done by weight so record a current weight prior to reaching out. Our Vaccination/Deworming Coordinator will confirm the medication to use, the schedule for administering, and provide you supplies. As dosage increases with weight, you'll need to weigh your foster(s) prior to each dose to ensure you are giving the correct amount.



Measure using the Top of the Plunger

### Fenbendazole (Panacur) 10% liquid (100mg/ml)



Roundworms, Hookworms, Lungworms, Whipworms, some Tapeworms

Weight (lbs)	Dosage (ml)
0.5	0.1
1	0.2
1.25	0.3
1.5	0.3
1.75	0.4
2	0.5
2.25	0.5
2.5	0.6
2.75	0.6
3	0.7
3.25	0.7
3.5	0.8
3.75	0.9
4	0.9
4.25	1.0
4.5	1.0
4.75	1.1
5	1.2
5.25	1.2
5.5	1.3
5.75	1.3
6	1.4
6.25	1.4
6.5	1.5
6.75	1.6
7	1.6
7.25	1.7
7.5	1.7
7.75	1.8
8	1.8
8.25	1.9
8.5	2.0
8.75	2.0
9	2.1
9.25	2.1
9.5	2.2
9.75	2.2
10	2.3

### Toltrazuril 5%-200 (Baytril)



Coccidia

Weight (lbs)	Dosage (ml)
0.5	0.1
1	0.2
1.25	0.3
1.5	0.3
1.75	0.4
2	0.4
2.25	0.5
2.5	0.5
2.75	0.6
3	0.6
3.25	0.7
3.5	0.7
3.75	0.8
4	0.8
4.25	0.9
4.5	0.9
4.75	1.0
5	1.0
5.25	1.1
5.5	1.1
5.75	1.2
6	1.2
6.25	1.3
6.5	1.3
6.75	1.4
7	1.4
7.25	1.5
7.5	1.5
7.75	1.6
8	1.6
8.25	1.7
8.5	1.7
8.75	1.8
9	1.8
9.25	1.9
9.5	1.9
9.75	2.0
10	2.0

### Pyrantel Pamoate



Roundworms, Hookworms, stomach work parasites

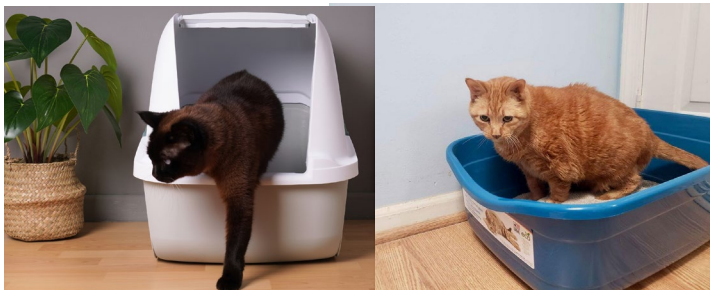
Weight (lbs)	Dosage (ml)
0.5	0.05
1	0.1
1.5	0.15
2	0.2
2.5	0.25
3	0.3
3.5	0.35
4	0.4
4.5	0.45
5	0.5
5.5	0.55
6	0.6
6.5	0.65
7	0.7
7.5	0.75
8	0.8
8.5	0.85
9	0.9
9.5	0.95
10	1.0













# Digestive Health

## Healthy Fosters = Healthy Poo

Generally, there are five things to take note of in your foster's stool:

1. **Color:** The color of your foster's stool gives insight into their digestive health. Light to dark brown color in your cat's stools is the perfect poo.
2. **Consistency:** The consistency of your foster's stools should be firm and easy to scoop. Too watery or too dry may indicate something is wrong.
3. **Contents:** It is possible that you will see things in your foster's stool. This can be normal but be alert for things that may indicate a problem.
4. **Size/Shape:** Stools should be log-shaped, maintain their form and be around the same size as the food portions eaten.
5. **Frequency:** The number of times your foster poos should be consistent – whether that's once or five times per day. If there are frequency changes it may indicate a problem.



	Appearance	What It Means
	Smooth and firm, but not hard. Shaped like a sausage and segmented.	Healthy and normal poop.
	Hard and pebble-like.	Constipation or lack of water content in poop.
	Sausage shaped but soft with a moist surface. Leaves behind residue when lifted.	Close to normal, mild gastrointestinal upset: dietary changes or dietary indiscretion.
	Very moist and can barely hold its shape. Leaves behind residue when picked up.	Moderate to severe gastrointestinal upset: dietary indiscretion, infection, inflammatory bowel disease.
	Watery with no texture and total loss of shape.	Diarrhea: dietary indiscretion, infection, inflammatory bowel disease, colitis, stress, parasites.
	Bright red blood in the poop.	Bleeding in the lower GI tract: infection, dietary intolerance, stress, tumors, inflammatory bowel disease.
	Very dark, black colored poop.	Bleeding in the upper GI tract (digested blood): infection, tumors, trauma, stomach ulcers, foreign bodies.
	Bright yellow colored poop.	Excessive bile in the poop: liver disease, gall bladder problems.
	Green colored poop.	Liver disease, gall bladder problems, parasites, infection, eating grass.
	Poop with white specks that may or may not be moving.	Intestinal parasites: tapeworm or roundworms.
	Poop that looks white.	Bile duct blockage or issues with the liver, gallbladder, and small intestine.

# Vaccinations

## Vaccination Schedule

There are many vaccines available to protect the health of our fosters. ASF provides our cats with the core vaccines, those that are legally required and strongly recommended for all cats—even those that don't go outside. Core vaccines protect animals from severe, life-threatening diseases that have global distributions.

Our Vaccination/Deworming Coordinators will monitor your foster's needs and reach out to you to schedule vaccines.

### ***FVRCP***

The FVRCP is a combination vaccination, which protects against Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, and Panleukopenia. These viruses have the potential to be fatal and are highly contagious. This is why this vaccine and the protection it provides is critical to the health of your foster.

#### *For Kittens*

Most kittens need three rounds of the FVRCP vaccine to ensure they are protected.

- Dose 1: Administered to healthy kittens at 6 weeks of age
- Dose 2: Given 3-4 weeks after first dose
- Dose 3: Given 3-4 weeks after second dose

#### *For Adults*

Adult cats need one round of the FVRCP vaccine annually.



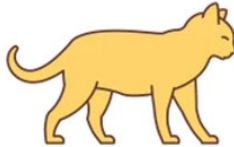
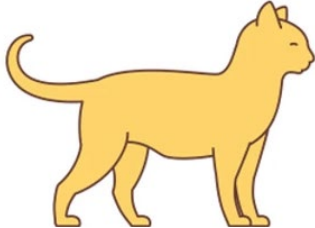
FVRCP vaccines may be given at the time of your foster(s) spay/neuter appointment or given by a trained member of the ASF team. After receiving their initial vaccine (or series for kittens), all cats need an annual FVRCP booster to ensure they remain protected against these dangerous viruses.

# Vaccinations

## ***Rabies***

While rare, thanks to vaccines, rabies is significant not only for its effect on cats but because it is a disease that is transmissible to humans and can be fatal. Most states, including PA, require by law that cats be vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with a defined schedule.

Your foster(s) will be vaccinated for rabies during their spay/neuter appointment. If your foster was spayed/neutered prior to intake by ASF, a vet appointment will be scheduled for the rabies vaccine to be administered.

6 Weeks	9-10 Weeks	13-14 Weeks	Annually
			
FVRCP	FVRCP	FVRCP Rabies	FVRCP Rabies

***Note: Adult cats not previously vaccinated for FVRCP will require a booster shot 3-4 weeks after the first vaccine is administered.***



# FIV/FeLV Testing

All cats and kittens will be tested for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) unless existing records are provided to ASF upon intake. The good news is that both diseases are rare. Only about 2.5% of the U.S. cat population test positive for FeLV or FIV.


Fosters needing spayed or neutered will be tested at that time. Fosters who have already been spayed or neutered will be tested at their rabies vaccination appointment.

## Positive Test Results

In the rare instance a kitten tests positive, ASF will handle their specific needs on a case-by-case basis. It's important to note that a negative test indicates the cat or kitten is negative for the disease. A positive test can be a false positive. Cats or kittens who test positive should be quarantined until they can be retested later.

If all tests come back positive, special arrangements will be made to ensure the care and wellbeing of the foster.

### What is FIV? (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus)



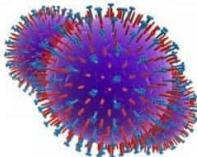
FIV is a lentivirus, similar to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The two viruses are similar in their effect on the body, but they are not transmittable between species.

- FIV is an immuno-suppressing virus found in cats worldwide!
- FIV is mainly spread from cat to cat by bite wound.
- Cats with FIV need to be kept indoors at all times!
- FIV is a manageable condition; cats with FIV can still live full, happy lives.

**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
of Southern Arizona

### What is FeLV? (Feline Leukemia Virus)

#### OVERVIEW




FeLV is a retrovirus that replicates inside living cells, specifically cell of the immune system and tissues that create blood. This makes it impossible to kill.

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#### SYMPTOMS

Loss of appetite, fever, lethargy, weight loss, diarrhea, pale gums, irregular breathing.



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#### INFECTION



From a mother cat to the litter, bite wound, mutual grooming, sharing litter boxes.

# Spaying + Neutering

Most kittens are ready to be spayed or neutered when they are three months old. Kittens must be in good health and weigh at least three pounds.

The ASF Team will arrange your foster's appointment when they are old enough. All information will be shared with you through your Foster Chat.

## ***Preparing for Your Appointment***

- Fosters should be fed on their normal daily schedule the day prior to their appointment.
- Remove access food at 10:00pm the night before their appointment.
- All fosters need to be in their own carrier. If you don't have enough, post in your Foster Chat and arrangements will be made for you to borrow carriers.
- Using tape, put your name, phone number, Angie's Stray Foundation, and the name of the foster on the carrier.

Prepare a space to contain your foster for at least 24 hours following the procedure. Adult cats and females often need to be contained longer to avoid tearing stitches.

## ***Appointment Day***

- Drop off your foster at the designated clinic/veterinarian office.
- Advise that you are with Angie's Stray Foundation, Inc.
- On average, cats are ready for pick up after 3:00pm the day. This can vary depending on the facility, the exact time of the procedure and how quickly that cat/kitten wakes from anesthesia.
- Once home, it's okay to leave your foster in the carrier or transfer them to a crate or small room (e.g., bathroom).
- Give fresh water and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of their normal amount of food. Some won't have an appetite for the remainder of the day, which is normal.

# Addressing + Treating Injuries

## Caring for Scratches and Bite Wounds

Even the sweetest cats can become startled, overstimulated, or playful — and accidents happen. If you are bitten or scratched by your foster, please alert ASF immediately using your Foster Chat.

### **Scratches**

Daily interactions — especially playtime, handling, or even a cat jumping onto your lap — can sometimes result in scratches. Cat scratches may leave red, raised, or painful marks, and in some cases can lead to infection if not treated promptly.

All cat scratches — even minor ones — should be cleaned right away. Follow these steps:

- Wash the scratch gently with warm water and soap. Do not scrub aggressively. Rinse for at least 5 minutes.
- If the scratch is bleeding, apply pressure with a clean gauze pad or towel until it stops.
- Apply an over-the-counter antibiotic ointment to help prevent infection.
- Cover the scratch with a sterile bandage if it's in an area that may get dirty or irritated.
- Monitor the wound over the next 24–48 hours. Redness, swelling, warmth, pus, or increased pain may indicate infection and should be reported immediately.

If accidental scratches are happening frequently, reach out to ASF — we can help troubleshoot with tips on nail trimming, safe handling, and play strategies.



# Addressing + Treating Injuries

## Bite Wounds

Cat bites can be more serious than scratches because their sharp teeth can inject bacteria deep into the skin. Infection can develop **within 12–24 hours**, so bite wounds should never be ignored.

If you are bitten, you must contact ASF right away, and seek medical guidance if the skin is broken.

Basic first steps while waiting for additional instructions:

- Immediately wash the bite thoroughly with warm water and soap for several minutes.
- Allow the wound to bleed briefly to help flush bacteria if it is safe to do so.
- Apply pressure with clean gauze if bleeding is heavy.
- Apply antibiotic ointment and loosely cover with a sterile dressing.
- Seek medical care if:
  - The bite breaks the skin.
  - The wound becomes red, warm, swollen, or painful.
  - There is pus or discharge.
  - You develop fever, chills, or swollen lymph nodes.
  - The bite is on the hand, face, or near a joint.
  - You have a weakened immune system or chronic health conditions.
- If you **have not had a tetanus booster in the past 5–10 years**, a healthcare provider may recommend one after a bite.
- When in doubt, contact your doctor or visit urgent care.

**After you have treated the wound, contact ASF Coordinators immediately using your Foster Chat.**



# Adoption Ready



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[www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org](http://www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org)

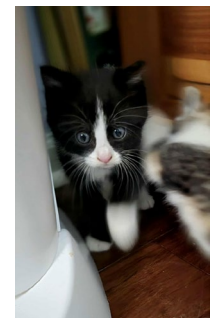
# Adoption Ready?

## Knowing When Your Foster is Ready

There are certain requirements that ASF has in place to determine if a foster is ready to be listed as adoptable. Answering the questions below will help you determine if your foster is ready to find their forever home.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Have all previous health issues or concerns been addressed?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Is your foster currently healthy?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Has your foster received all vaccines, including boosters, appropriate for their age?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Has your foster been treated for parasites including fleas and worms?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Is your foster spayed or neutered?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Is your foster using the litter box?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you alerted ASF Coordinators of any behavioral issues?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you shared images of all records with ASF coordinators through your Foster Chat?

If you answer yes to all of the question above, then congratulations! You did it! Your foster is ready to be adopted!



# Promoting Your Foster

## Showcasing Your Foster

Once your pets are ready for adoption, we encourage you to advertise your fosters and Angie's Stray Foundation through your personal social media pages if you are comfortable doing so. The more we get the word

### ***Posting Your Foster on our Pet Adoption Sites***

There are currently two sites (Petfinder + Adoptapet) that ASF subscribes where you will need to list your foster(s). You know your foster(s) best and it really helps the ASF Team if you list them.

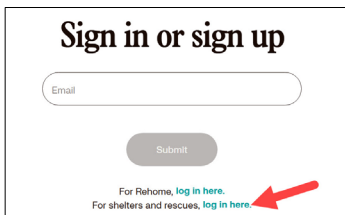
#### *Using Petfinder Pro*

Once your foster(s) are ready for adoption it is time to list them on Petfinder. Please contact the ASF Technology Coordinator for login credentials and assistance using the site.

Review the [Petfinder Pro Instructions](#) for step-by-step directions on adding your foster(s) into Petfinder. The document is also posted on the Angie's Stray Foundation Volunteer Facebook page under Files.

#### *Using Adoptapet*

- Visit the Adoptapet website at [www.adoptapet.com](http://www.adoptapet.com).
- Scroll down to Shelter login and use ASF's credentials.



Username: [ruth@angiesstrayfoundation.org](mailto:ruth@angiesstrayfoundation.org).

Password: Angie2023\$\$.

- Complete the required fields and upload photos of your foster(s).

If you have question using either Petfinder Pro or Adoptapet, let us know using your Foster Chat.

# Application Process

## Application Approval

ASF Adoption Coordinators process all applications as they are received. They conduct a thorough review of information submitted, contact vet and personal references, and follow-up with any questions for the applicant(s). Trust that the ASF Team has done their due diligence to ensure that your foster is going to the best possible home. We have a rigorous process in place to give all fosters the happily ever after they deserve.

**You will be notified when an approved application has been received for your foster(s).**

It's exciting and sometimes a little bit sad when your foster(s) gets adopted. Rest assured that you have done your job as our goal is to find all ASF fosters their forever homes.

Sometimes your friends or family members fall in love with and adopt your foster. This is a happy ending for everyone!

**All potential adopters, even the ones we know well, must fill out an application and go through the approval process.** Your recommendation does help expedite to process.

The adoption form is available on the ASF webpage at:  
<https://angiesstrayfoundation.org/adopt/>.



# Adoption Ready

## Steps for a Successful Adoption

### *Adoption Donation for Cats + Kittens*

*There may be exceptions to adoption donation. For example, certain breeds may require a higher donation. You will be alerted to this in your Foster Chat. Generally, our fees are as detailed below.*

- Kittens six months or younger: \$125
- Cats older than six months: \$75
- ASF often discounts the donation if fosters are adopted in pairs

### *Payment of Adoption Donation*

Donations must be paid prior to the adopter leaving with their new pet. See below for a list of all acceptable payment methods.

**Direct adopters to: <https://angiesstrayfoundation.org/adopt/donation> and advise them to select Pay by Credit Card via (PayPal). This is the preferred payment method. ASF no longer accepts personal checks as a form of payment for adoption donations.**

**Cash:** Notify ASF through your Foster Chat that payment was made in cash. Within 1-2 days of adoption, you will need to deliver the cash to an ASF Coordinator or send the donation using the link above.

### *Coordinating Meet & Greet and Preparing for Adoption Day*

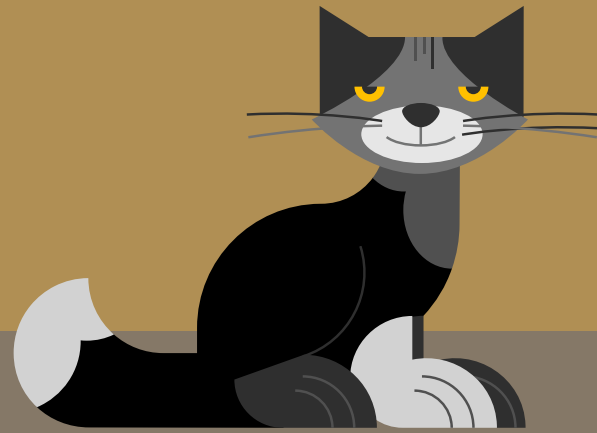
1. After you are notified that an application has been approved, ASF Coordinators will send a congratulations email that includes our Adoption Agreement to the adopters and copy you.
2. Respond to all on the message and advise the adopters that you will be coordinating a meet and greet with their new family member.
3. Coordinate schedules with adopters to identify the best day and time.

# Adoption Ready

4. Pick a location to meet. If you are not comfortable having the adopters come to your home, you may want to meet in a nearby pet friendly establishment, such as Tractor Supply, Concord Pet, etc. Contact the ASF Coordinators using your Foster Chat for assistance in finding a location.
5. Prepare paper copies of all records and complete the Adoption Certificate and Pet Information Sheet available in the appendix. This is their adoption information pack.
6. Have the [Adoption Agreement](#) available in case the adopters did not already complete and submit.

## **Adoption Day**

1. Have your foster contained in an area that makes it easy to conduct the meet and greet. If all goes well, then proceed with the remaining steps.
2. Confirm that the adopter has submitted a complete Adoption Agreement. If not, they will need to complete as the first step on adoption day. **We must have a completed copy, no exceptions, prior to adopters taking their new cat(s) home.**
3. Confirm that the adopter has paid the appropriate adoption donation. If not, ask the adopter to pay adoption donation and share their confirmation with you prior to completing the adoption. **Payment must be received prior to adopters leaving with their cat(s), no exceptions.**
4. Advise on what type of food you are feeding and how often. Let adopters know to change food gradually to avoid upset tummies.
5. Explain to the adopter of the 3-3-3 Rule.
6. Give the adopter their adoption information pack.
7. Ask permission to take and share a photo on the ASF Facebook page and post photos and payment confirmation in your Foster Chat.



# Forms



Angie's Stray Foundation, Inc.  
*"all for her"*

[www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org](http://www.AngiesStrayFoundation.org)

# Health Assessment

## Basic Information

Name

Date Acquired

Sex  Female  Male Weight lbs oz

Age  Estimate  Known

Color

## Health Assessment

Describe the condition of the cat/kitten on intake:

Healthy  Injured  Sick

If injured or sick, describe the symptoms:

## Exam Checklist

Normal  Abnormal

Coat +  
Skin

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

Normal  Abnormal

Ears

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

Normal  Abnormal

Eyes

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

Normal  Abnormal

Nose

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

Normal  Abnormal

Mouth

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

# Health Assessment

## Exam Checklist

### Litter Box Usage

Normal

Abnormal

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

### Feces

Normal

Abnormal

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

### Worms

Not Present

Present

(DESCRIBE ABOVE IF ABNORMAL)

## Personality Traits

How would you describe your foster:

Energetic

Playful

Shy

Quiet

Curious

Loveable

Scared

Aggressive

Silly

What else is noteworthy about your foster:

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## Questions or Concerns

What questions do you need to ask the ASF Coordinators?

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# Appointment + Treatment Tracker

Name:

Treatment	Date	Administered/Treated by
-----------	------	-------------------------

## Parasite Treatments

Deworming 1

Deworming 3

Deworming 3

Flea Treatment

## Vaccinations

FVRCP

FVRCP Booster

FVRCP Booster

Rabies

## Spay/Neuter + Testing

Spay/Neuter

FelV/FIV Test

## Sick Visits

DESCRIBE ISSUE

DESCRIBE ISSUE

DESCRIBE ISSUE

Don't forget to ask for paper copies from the vet,  
snap a picture and share in your Foster Chat.



# Adoption Certificate

ADOPTER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

has officially adopted

PET NAME \_\_\_\_\_

and welcomed them into their family!

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of Angie's Stray Foundation, Inc.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



Angie's Stray Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Founded in Oxford, PA in 2021 by Ruth Jenkins and named after Angie, Ruth's rescue dog. Angie was found with a broken jaw after she was beaten and left for dead in a field. Angie inspired Ruth to continue to rescue other discarded and abused dogs and cats. Along with the help of the community, and a group of dedicated volunteers, we continue to honor Angie by saving others like her. We do it...all for her.

PET NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### Veterinary Records

Care Provided

Date(s)

Spay/Neuter

FVRCP Vaccine(s)

Rabies Vaccine  
(1 year)

FIV/FelV Negative

Deworming

### Important Information

Food Brand

Favorite Toy

Other Things  
to Know

### 3-3-3 Rule Information

When you adopt a new cat, you can expect that they will need time to adjust and acclimate to his new surroundings. While the exact timing is dependent on each cat's personality and can vary, here are some general guidelines. Remember your patience will be rewarded with lots of love and purrs.

3 Days	3 Weeks	3 Months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feeling overwhelmed</li> <li>▪ Feel scared and unsure</li> <li>▪ Don't feel comfortable</li> <li>▪ May not want to eat or drink.</li> <li>▪ Shuts down and/or hides</li> <li>▪ Test the boundaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Starts to settle in</li> <li>▪ Feels more comfortable</li> <li>▪ Figures out environment</li> <li>▪ Gets into a routine</li> <li>▪ Begins to shows his true self</li> <li>▪ Behavior issues may occur</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feels comfortable in their home</li> <li>▪ Builds trust and forms bonds</li> <li>▪ Gains a complete sense of security with his family</li> <li>▪ Well established routine</li> </ul>