



**Murray Bridge  
Vet Clinic**

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## New Kitten Checklist

### Vaccination

Your kitten needs to be vaccinated against Feline Enteritis, Feline Rhinotracheitis & Feline Calicivirus. Kittens are due for their 1st vaccination at the age of 8 weeks, and their 2nd at the age of 12 weeks.

Feline Immunodeficiency virus (FIV) also known as feline AIDS, is generally transmitted via cat fights and can cause a potentially fatal viral disease that interferes with the immune system of a cat. Vaccination for this virus is best started early with doses administered at 8 weeks, 12 weeks and 16 weeks of age. We diagnose many FIV positive cats in Murray Bridge and surrounding areas.

Vaccinations will need an annual booster.

We will send you a vaccination reminder when the next vaccination is due.

### Worming

Kittens are mostly at risk to pick up Roundworm. Your kitten will need to be wormed every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age and then every month until 6 months of age with an "allwormer" treatment.

Worming should then be done at least every 3 months (Summer, Autumn, Winter & Spring is an easy way to remember) - these "allwormers" will cover Roundworm, Hookworm and Tapeworm. Roundworm can affect humans.



### Diet

A high quality, complete and balanced diet is essential for a kitten to grow to a healthy adult cat. We stock a wide range of premium diets and we are happy to discuss any aspect of your kitten's diet. It is important that your kitten is fed a "kitten formulation" for the first 12 months of its life. Remember, your kitten only has one chance to grow - so it is very important to get it right.

### Fleas

We stock a range of excellent products which are safe to use and easy to administer to your kitten. We can advise you which products will best suit your pet's requirements. An effective flea control program is targeted at killing and preventing fleas on your pets as well as preventing eggs from hatching and immature fleas from accumulating in your pet's environment. Remember....All pets in your household need to be treated.

### Desexing

Desexing can be done at 5-6 months of age i.e. when the kitten has reached sexual maturity. Staff can discuss the benefits associated with desexing as well as other queries you may have e.g. heat, pregnancy, spraying, fighting etc.

## Dental Health

Healthy teeth and gums are essential to the overall wellbeing of your cat. Tartar build-up can lead to gum and periodontal disease. This can eventually lead to other internal diseases such as heart disease and liver problems.

A premium dry food with added dental defense will help to keep your kitten's teeth healthy throughout its life. Raw bones, chew toys, dental treats and tooth brushing (using special cat toothpaste) all help to reduce plaque and tartar. More than 70% of cats over the age of 2 years have some form of periodontal disease. A dental procedure, requiring anaesthetic, later in life will be necessary if your cat's teeth are not properly maintained.

## Your Cat & the Law

The law in S.A. requires you to identify your cat. The requirement is that your cat must wear a collar with appropriate identification. Identification must include cat's name, address and contact phone number. At Murray Bridge Veterinary Clinic you can place an order for custom made ID tags. Any cat found wandering can be trapped and euthanased if not wearing identification!

## Identification

Identification is necessary especially in the event of your kitten accidentally 'misplacing' itself. If your kitten is adequately identified a speedy return home may be possible. **MICROCHIPPING** - is a means of permanent identification for your pet and can be done anytime when visiting the vet. The microchip is placed under the skin and will never be lost or removed. If a 'found' cat is brought to the clinic it can be scanned and the ID number quoted to a data base which then tells us your details so we can reunite you and your pet. Your cat can also be ear tattooed to show that it has a microchip.

## 6 month Progress Check

When your kitten is 6 Months of age, we offer a **free** Check up. This visit includes a general wellbeing examination and an opportunity for you to discuss any health concerns you may have (or indeed any questions at all). Please ensure you call the clinic to arrange a time when you receive your reminder letter.

## Healthcare Plans

At MBVC we believe that prevention is better than cure, which is why we have developed our Pet Healthcare Plans. Each Plan is designed to cover all the regular essentials, such as booster vaccinations as well as 6-monthly check-ups.

Regular visits mean we can make sure we dispense accurate and up to date treatments. It also gives us the opportunity to monitor the general health of your pet and notice those often subtle changes that indicate something may be wrong.

We have worked hard to make sure our plan is cost effective, so you can relax knowing your pet is receiving the optimal care to keep them fit and healthy, whilst also saving you money.

Join our Healthcare Plan today and ensure the optimum wellness of your furry family member as well as saving money on your annual routine veterinary care.

## Pet Insurance

Pet insurance can help you provide your pet with optimal care and lessen the financial concerns that may be associated with accident and illness to your pet. It may also mean you can proceed with more advanced treatments or specialist consultations for a complicated illness or injury which may not otherwise be affordable. As with other insurances there is a range of levels and options offered by companies.

Cover against both accident and illness is advisable and the product disclosure statement should always be reviewed to ensure the policy is right for you and your pet.

If you have any further questions please make an appointment with your Veterinarian or ask one of our friendly staff members.

