

Thinking of breeding your cat?



Here's what you need to know:

Kittens are cute, but breeding is a big responsibility! Before you take the plunge, ask yourself:



Do you have the time, space, knowledge, energy, and money to care for a litter? Raising kittens can be a full-time job!



Vet check-ups are a must! Kittens (and their mum) should see the vet for vaccinations, parasite control, and advice on microchipping and neutering.



Talk to your vet first. They can guide you through the risks of pregnancy, birth, and kitten care.



Help kittens become great pets. Early socialisation is key; Kittens should be handled gently and exposed to normal home life so they grow up confident and friendly.



Are the parents healthy? Screen for inherited diseases, avoid inbreeding, and choose cats with good temperaments.



Find loving, responsible homes. It's your job to make sure kittens go to caring owners. Advise them to use the **Kitten Checklist**. Share tips, leaflets, and helpful links to guide them.



Protect their wellbeing. Breeding cats should be loved and cared for at home - not kept in cages long-term.



Prevent surprise pregnancies! If you're not breeding, neuter your cat at 4 months.



Know the law. In England, kittens must be at least 8 weeks old before being sold. It's illegal to sell kittens you didn't breed yourself, and selling for profit requires a licence.



Kittens need a strong start. Weaning begins at 3-4 weeks and finishes by 8 weeks - feed them high-quality kitten food and track their weight.



Avoid exaggerated characteristics. Features such as flat faces, shortened legs or tails, no hair or folded ears can lead to lifelong health and welfare issues.



Breeding can be rewarding, but it takes care and commitment.
If in doubt, chat with your vet first.

Don't overbreed

Only breed queens aged between 1 and 6 years. A queen should have a maximum of 3 litters in 2 years, with at least 6 months between births, and have no more than 6 litters in her lifetime.

