

Regal Rags Cattery

Caring for Your Ragamuffin Kitten

Diet

Your kitten has been free fed Hill's Science Diet Kitten food and eats Blue Buffalo Wilderness wet food three times a day. Other brands the kittens have eaten are Science Diet Kitten Pate, Science Diet Kitten Kibble and Life's Abundance. The amount you feed will increase this month and as your kitten continues to grow. You can cut back to wet food twice a day at 5 months.

I also mix 1/8 teaspoon NuVet Plus Feline Supplement into water to dissolve and then mix into the wet food in the morning. I am impressed with how well the Coat stays with this product. It prevents shedding out of season and conditions the coat from the inside. We also boil chicken, debone and refrigerate. It is easier to chop up when it's cold. I add a handful on the top of the food in the morning. This is optional for you. Please limit fresh fish to no more than once a week. Mercury in fresh fish can build up in a cat and cause poisoning. Treats the kittens like are Tiki Cat Tiki Stix and Churu Cat Treats. Both are a lick-able mousse that is great for bonding. Just snip the end and squeeze from the bottom like an Otter POP. Wheatgrass is another delicious treat for cats that I highly recommend. It has many nutrients that are essential to a cats health and it's good for humans too! The grass also helps cats to expel hairballs that naturally build up.

Food Dishes

I recommend using glass, ceramic or stainless steel dishes for your cat. Plastic is porous and bacteria can grow on the rim transferring to your cats chin when eating. This is the main cause for feline chin acne, which can be easily resolved with a trip to the veterinarian for some ointment. Remember to wash the dishes once a day to prevent bacteria growth and keep your cat healthy. The acid in Vinegar mixed with a little water will dissolve the calcium build up on your dishes. You can just swish around and let soak for a bit. It usually dissolves quickly.

Grooming

First off, get a dog comb and comb the kitten's fur. Do this for as long as the kitten will sit still, then stop and do a different area next time. I do a lot of grooming when they hang out sleeping in my lap or on my desk. Play with the front feet so they get used to you touching them to clip them, and clip once a week. RagaMuffins like to knead people and that will remind you to clip. This keeps them from scratching on surfaces you don't want. After your kitten settles in - Bathe your kitten. At first, put warm water in sink and let them stand in it, maybe put a bottle cap or other floaty object for interest. You can also put them in the shower after you have taken one to get them used to standing in water. Many Adopters take their kittens/cats in the shower with them. Bathing is a great way to keep the fur in condition and get rid of loose fur, just be sure to comb the kitten when dry. The only tool I recommend for grooming your RagaMuffin is a stainless-steel dog comb, pictured at Left. I use the wide spaced tines to comb off loose fur. Tangles Away by Groomer's Edge can be lightly misted on fur. Let dry a little and comb through. This product also helps to keep new mats from forming. Mats can develop in the armpits, back legs and deep



down on the chest. Be sure you comb these areas. Small mats can be picked apart with your fingers and the loose fur combed off. Bigger mats are better taken off with electric clippers. Many are available for pets that are quieter and rechargeable. If you have problems, call or text me (732)-997-2723

Nail Trimming

I use Cat nail clippers to trim nails and they can be purchased at any pet shop or online. It is easy to hook the end of the nail in the curved edge of the bottom blade and cut down. Cats nails are clear and easy to see the red vein. Pushing on the toe will make them nail come out so you can trim it.

Litter

We own a litter robot 4 and use the recommended Whisker brand cat litter associated with it. The kittens are trained and are comfortable using the litter robot and/or a traditional litter box prior to leaving.

Our breeder used unscented clay clumping litter from Petco, the Phresh brand with the Green lid. She used to go to the store and refill because there is Much Less Powder when you refill from the big bin in the store.

If you need lighter weight litter, some Wheat Scoop litter can be added to the clay and mixed in, About clay: Wheat Scoop 2: 1 ratio. It's lighter to scoop and the wheat seems to keep it fresher smelling. Another alternative to Wheat Scoop is using Chicken Lay Crumble feed. It can be purchased at Walmart, Tractor Supply, feed stores and Amazon. It is very cheap and usually comes in a 50 lb. sack. I use it for the kittens when they are learning to use the litter box because it is edible and won't hurt them if they ingest it.

Have fun with your new kitten and please send me photos at 6-months and a year old. I love to keep track of how they turn out.

Sincerely,

David Novak

Regal Rags

(732)-997-2723