

So, You're Bringing

# Home a Goat

How Exciting! Here is a little information to get you ready for your little friend(s) to make the journey that much (more fun) and exciting!

## Items to Have

- Each animal goes home with a packet explaining feeding and amounts they are getting! So, we won't go that detail here.
- We like to have our bottle-fed goats on WHOLE COWS MILK from the store (unless otherwise stated). That is 4%, red top or whatever your grocery store carries in whole cow milk. It is second best to fresh goat milk in terms of nutrition. We do NOT feed formulas!
- A couple items we like to keep on hand for goat ownership. These items are NOT required but over time it wouldn't be a bad thing to have on hand for emergencies. Some items include electrolytes (specific to goats and Gatorade will work in a pinch), Pepto-Bismol, activated charcoal, baking soda, and a thermometer is ALWAYS good to keep on hand!
- We will give you the nipple the baby goat likes to use so no need to run around trying to find a nipple.

## TIPS

- Find a vet AHEAD of time. Emergencies arise and having a vet on standby that will help you is the best thing! You will also want a vet for wethering your kids around the 8-10 weeks!!
- Find a close mentor in your area if you can't find a vet. Get on the local groups or get to know others with avid interests with goats. Sometimes your mentor or friends will have medications or advice available to help you in a pinch! (IF you can't get a vet)
- Get familiar with livestock stores/feed stores like Tractor Supply Company or local feed stores.
  - Your goats will be eating special goat feed from these stores. We like a goat specific feed (16% protein) and a grass hay. Some alfalfa hay is fine. Minerals are great!
  - Tractor supply also carries essential medication like B12 and electrolytes
- Having shavings on hand. We like to line shavings on the bottom of pens to catch the tinkle. Pee pads, litter. Whatever you think!
  - Also belly bands are useful.
- Think about living space. Goats are great in the house for a short time, but it may be easier to relocate them outside after they are fully grown. 1) They like to be outside and play 2) they can be destructive, defecate uncontrollable and will eat your plants and shrubs! They'll need a protected area (fenced) and a small enclosure to keep them dry and warm from the elements. Some people keep them in their house forever but that is NOT for most!
- We leave our tiny babies in the house until they can be acclimated to outside (when temperatures are not so low or bipolar). They are penned in a safe, dry, draft free area inside the house in a space where they can get up and walk around. We let them munch on hay too when they are in their pen.

That is a good, brief start on bringing your kids home. There will more questions & we will do our best to help you enjoy your pets. Sincerely, Royal Caliber Ranch.