

WAIT TILL 8!



Did you know that a kitten can be spayed or neutered and vaccinated at 8 weeks old? It can be tricky to tell a kitten's age but this at-a-glance kitten progression chart 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 or eat on their own. They rely on mom for everything!



ONE WEEK

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



TWO WEEKS

Kitten's eyes are fully open and it's taking its first wobbly steps. Kittens at this age start interacting more with each other, but still need mom.



THREE WEEKS

Kitten is now playing with its 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

At four weeks kittens are sturdy on their feet and playing with each other, toys and people.



FIVE WEEKS

Kitten is now full of energy and plays exuberantly. Interacting with people is important for kittens at this age. Kitten is developing lots of personality!



SIX WEEKS

Every day kitten is getting more sure of itself through socialization and play. It's using the litter box and eating cat food - though it still visits mom for snacks and comfort.



SEVEN WEEKS

Kitten 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! Kitten now weighs enough to be spayed or neutered. It's also getting more skilled and adventurous. Kitten is learning so much from its mom, siblings, and human caregiver.

If you find kittens, here's what you should do:

- **Kittens without mom:** First, determine if the kittens are truly without a mother or if she is just off looking for food. Remember, it's best for kittens younger than 8 weeks to stay with their mother.
- **With mom but too young to separate:** Leave them with their mom. Once the kittens are older, bring them and mom into Animal Care to participate in the Community Cats program.
- **If the kittens are old enough to be separated from their mother:** You can get them all spayed or neutered with their mom and return them to the outdoors.