**Palmetto Bengals**

**2018**

**Bengal Care Guide**

 ***The following are important guidelines/suggestions on taking care of your Bengal. Of course, every kitten is different, and care depends on your kitten’s specific needs.***

 **Introduction to Pets**

**If you have other pets in the house, one way to introduce your Bengal to them is to place the kitten in the pet taxi (or a crate), and place the pet taxi/crate in the middle of a room with the other pets. Let everyone sniff each other, and get acquainted. There may be hissing and spitting at first, but this is normal, and shouldn’t last for more than a few days. Supervised play times are also suggested, until everyone is familiar with each other. If you have other felines in the house, you must isolate your kitten for 2 weeks, otherwise you will void our health warranty.**

 **Introduction To The Home**

 Once you bring your Rogue Bengal Cub home, we recommend that you keep him/her calm and comfortable until he/she becomes accustomed to the new surroundings. We recommend that you first place your kitten in a **small area**, such as a bathroom or a bedroom, with his/her food, water and litterbox, prior to taking him/her on short excursions throughout the house, until he/she becomes familiar with his/her new surroundings. He/she may cry for the first 48 hours or hide under the bed or other small, dark spaces (make sure you ‘kitty-proof’ the room before bringing your kitten home!). Remember, it is scary for a kitten to leave his familiar surroundings! Lure him/her out with teasers and just give him / her time to come out on his/her own and explore. They need to feel secure in their new home. If your Bengal was shipped, please show him/her extra love and attention, hold him/her close and comfort him/her, and he/she will love you for "rescuing" him from the airport. When they arrive at your home, try giving them wet kitten food and see if they will eat it – if they do not, that is normal, as some kittens want to explore the sights and smells of their new house. If you have small children, please caution them against chasing and yelling the kitten. Please show them the proper way to hold the kitten. Bengals are wonderful with small children, and the make great companions. Be relaxed around your new kitten because they will pick up on your nervous energy and anxiety (trust us, we’ve had this happen before – the more relaxed the client, the less issues with your Rogue Bengal Cub!)

**Litterboxes**

 Place the litterbox in the kitten’s bedroom and in the living room (if that is where the family normally gathers). Our bengals are used to being in a room with at least one litterbox in each corner, with their dry food and water in the middle of the room, within eyeshot of their dry food bowl and water bowl. Do not place the litterbox in the laundry room or another floor of the house – the kitten will not find it! The more litterboxes, the better, at least for the first month while the kitten adjusts to its new home. We also use plain clay, so please use the same, at least for the first week or two – if you want to change out to a different type of litter, place one litterbox with the clay litter and another litterbox with the new litter side by side, while your kitten adjusts.

 We place our litterboxes within eyeshot of the kitty’s food and drink bowl. So, when you first bring your Bengal home, try and do the same, so the little one does not get lost trying to get to the litterbox. We also suggest that you show them their litter box first thing upon their arrival, and watch them carefully after they have just eaten or drunk water, to make sure they know where to go. Our kittens are litter trained when they leave us, but we have found that, in some very rare cases, some kittens find it harder to adjust to their new homes, become confused and have accidents when they arrive at their new home. Please be patient with your kitten. It is more traumatic for some kittens to leave the familiarity of our cattery their littermates than others.

 **Food**

Our kittens are fed raw chicken ground while being weaned from mom and they have dry kitten food ( Taste of the Wild) that is left available for them at all times. Please be advised that kittens have very sensitive stomachs, so make sure that you change out the food gradually from what they are fed here, over a week or more. Your baby should eat kitten food for the first 12 months, since kitten food has the extra calories and nutrition for your kitten to grow strong. After 12 months, you can switch to adult cat food (again, gradually). However, we do recommend keeping them on a raw diet, as we have found that this improves their coat and adds to their size. For canned cat food, we recommend no more than one can a day, otherwise your kitten may end up just wanting canned food.

**Toys! Toys! Toys!**

Bengals love toys! They love to chase balls, feathers, lures - pretty much anything that moves! They also like the sisal rope scratching posts and cat trees.

Socialization, Training and Discipline. Bengals are very smart, but they are also very active, so you need to train them early on, to prevent destructive behavior. Do not encourage your kitten to play rough or to "play bite" and this will carry on to adulthood. If you have children, teach them not to play rough with the kitten, because when your kitten is grown up, he will play too rough. Be firm with your kitten from the very beginning, so they know what behavior is acceptable, and what behavior is not. Reward them with treats for good behavior.

**Our Guarantee**

 Our guarantee only covers your Bengals kitten. If you have a multi-cat household, and your other feline(s) comes down with health issues after your kitten arrives, we are not responsible for any veterinary expenses for your other feline(s), as we are not responsible for their health. Similarly, if your Bengal kitten comes down with health issue(s) after exposure to your existing feline(s), we will be responsible only if the issues are congenital issues. You need to make sure that your existing felines are up to date on all vaccinations and have been regularly checked by your veterinarian prior to introducing them to your new kitten. This also applies to any other pets you may have in your household.

Please make allowances. Although our kittens are socialized, it is still upsetting for them to be in strange surroundings. Please give him/her time to adjust. Adjustment could take as much as two to four weeks, before he/she is comfortable. We cannot predict how our kittens will act when he/she leaves the familiar environment of our cattery. Also, your kitten may also have some minor upsets from the stress of moving (particularly if they flew by air or have been in a car for several hours). Some kittens may not eat and/or have a bowel movement for the first two days. At a minimum, be sure that your kitten is drinking and try and encourage your kitten to eat when she/she first arrives. But, if your kitten starts vomiting, has diarrhea (or blood in his/her stool), sneezes, has a runny nose, acts lethargic or has no appetite, please take your kitten to the vet immediately. Please contact us immediately if you have concerns. We cannot help you if we do not know about the issue. We want to be kept up to date on our kittens’ health and well-being. By letting us know about the issue, you can also help us improve our health protocols and our breeding program. We may not be able to help you if you wait a week, two weeks, etc. before telling us that your kitten has had health or behavior issues. It’s better to tell us right away so that we can help figure out a solution.

Our kittens are free-fed dry kitten food. We are currently feeding our kittens Core & Instint. (Please check with us after your have reserved your kitten to make sure this is still the case, as we will occasionally switch over to another brand if our research shows that another brand is preferable).

 

<https://www.instinctpetfood.com/cats>

https://www.wellnesspetfood.com/natural-dog-food/product-catalog/core-100-freeze-dried-salmon

 **Mix These Together**

 is readily available at most pet stores. If you are planning to change to another brand, you need to SLOWLY mix in the new dry food (over the course of at least week) to avoid upsetting the kittens’ digestive system. We do not typically feed canned – we prefer to feed raw (at least 2 times a day) and leave the dry food out for them. We occasionally feed canned food, so when you first!

* **Did we mention TOYS???????????? THEY ARE YOUR LIFE SAVER, THE ANWSER TO YOUR PRAYERS AND SANITY! YOU CHOSE TO GET A WILD CAT SO IT IS UP TO YOU TO KEEP HIM ENTERTAINED ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!!!!!** ☺

**The Sky is the limit with your Bengal and toy options! They love to learn and be entertained! Your Bengal has his or her own personality have fun and enjoy getting to know his or her** **Amazon.com & Chewy.Com have normally have the best prices and the most upto date toys that mainstrem pet stores can not compete with! It is worth the 2 day wait!!!**  **Would you Believe paper bags and boxes will make your bengal baby happy days at a time!**



**Totally worth the Build or the investment!!!!**

