

Save A Purrfect Cat Rescue

adopt for life



Introductions 101

Please, never ever, put your newly acquired kitten or cat suddenly with your present cat(s) or kitten(s)! Like children at a new school, there is *always* an adjustment period – sometimes lasting a month or more. This is our simple four step, 8-16 day Introductory Plan.

STEP 1 (2 to 4 days)

Put your new companion in a spare room or bathroom, with his or her own water, food, litter, bedding and toys. Visit your new pet frequently to show your love, pet and talk to him or her. During this time, be sure that your original cat receives lots of your attention, *more* attention than the new cat! They will use this time to sniff and visit under the door. Both new and original pets will be listening while you visit the other.

STEP 2 (2 to 4 days)

Several times a day over this period, crack the door to the room your new cat or kitten is inhabiting. Stand there supervising and verbally reassuring both parties. There will be some visual contact and they may sniff noses through the narrow opening.

STEP 3 (2 to 4 days)

In this step, you should allow short introductory visits (5 to 15 minutes) between your old and new pets. Don't force them together. Allow them to make contact at their own speed, to enter or leave as they choose. If there is a combat, bullying or excessive vocal threatening, then end the visit at once. Return to Step 2 for another day or two. Be especially reassuring to your *original* cat(s) or kitten(s).

STEP 4 (2 to 4 days)

This is your final step – leave the door open for free exchange as long as there is someone home and awake to listen for any problems that might arise. Break up confrontations promptly — non-play type confrontations, that is. Show love to both in extravagant measure, trying not to show favoritism. Never withhold attention as punishment.

If you play with your cats as a group, they will begin to behave as a group. Cats are highly social creatures. The more they play with you and each other, the more connected they become. When the feather toys, the strings, the balls come out, they will know it's time to get together. We are certain that you will create new games to entertain your home companions!