



THE FELINE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC

www.felineassociationsa.com

THINKING OF BUYING A PEDIGREE KITTEN? A GUIDE AND ADVICE FOR PURCHASERS Questions to ask

🐾 Is the cattery registered?

For further information contact the Feline Association for a list of FASA registered Breeders.

🐾 Can I visit and see the kittens in their own environment with no obligation?

Shop around. Make it clear you are looking and taking your time. Make the right decision, not an impulse buy which could disappoint you later.

🐾 Does the cattery appear **clean**, with no undue odour (there may be some smell attached where a stud cat is housed)?

🐾 Do all the cats and kittens appear **healthy, happy** and **active**?

- There should be no more cats/kittens than what the breeder and their family can effectively care for.
- Cats/kittens should be raised in an environment that offers them physical and mental stimulation, and **kittens will appear to be well handled and socialised**.
- Kittens should only be placed in homes where the breeder genuinely believes the new owner will provide a life-long commitment of responsible pet ownership.
- Have you considered how you will introduce your current pets and children to your new kitten? These are topics that your breeder should be able to help you with.

🐾 How old will the kitten be when I can have it?

Kittens should not go to new homes unless they are in good health and are 12 weeks of age.

🐾 What am I getting for my money?

Kittens will have had a veterinary health check and be immunized. Some breeders will also include desexing and micro-chipping. All breeders should offer support to new kitten owners. New owners should be sent a registration/pedigree issued by the FASA Registrar.

🐾 Has the kitten been vaccinated?

The kitten should have had at least 2 vaccinations; generally one is given at 8 weeks and one at 12 weeks. The Core Vaccination is for Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Feline Calicivirus known as 'F3'.

Other vaccines your vet may suggest could include "F4", which includes protection against Chlamydia

Vaccines also exist for: Feline Immunovirus (FIV or Feline Aids) and Feline Leukaemia (FeLV). Any cat that has access to the outdoors should be vaccinated against FIV.

Upon the sale of the kitten the new owner must be provided with a current vaccination certificate for that kitten issued and signed by the veterinary surgeon who carried out the vaccinations. The breeder should ensure that the 12 week vaccine is given.

🐾 Will the kitten be desexed before I get it?

Breeders are encouraged to have their kittens desexed prior to sale to a new owner. This procedure is safe, and has no long-term adverse effects on the cat. Consideration should be given to microchipping the kitten before sale to the new owner.



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- ✔ **Breeder should be prepared to give ongoing advice and support to the new owners, not just at the time of sale.**

The new owner should be provided with:

- **Written details of all dietary requirements**, especially what the kitten is being fed currently;
- **Vaccination certificate;**
- **Information on:** Responsible pet ownership, which could include:
 - Cat Runs and enclosures and indoor living
 - Cat friendly toys/plants
 - Any other information that will ensure the cat/kitten fits into its new environment with minimum stress.
- ✔ What should a new owner expect from their breeder?
 - If the kitten refuses to settle & rehome. How will the breeder help me?
 - If the kitten is not desexed a requirement that the kitten be spayed or neutered by five months of age should be agreed as part of the registration agreement.
 - Breeding arrangements may be entered into with other registered breeders for breeding purposes.
 - The kitten or cat owner may require some ongoing support, introduction to networks and be able to locate where further advice can be found.

- **Is a Pedigree included?**

The FASA registration papers include a full 4 generation pedigree with the colours of all cats included.

The breeder will encourage the purchaser to make contact if he/she has any questions or concerns, and the breeder will respond in a timely manner.

- ✔ **Does the breed I am looking at have any genetic problems?**

All health related problems should be referred to your veterinarian for advice.

If so, are these cats tested as free of the problem (if possible to do so)?

Further enquiries can be directed to:

FASA Secretary

Lee Caldwell

caldwell48@gmail.com

FASA Public Contact Representative

Anne Fanning

anne@memspatch.com.au

Ph: 08 8388 0834

