

Guidelines for adopting cats

Dyrebeskyttelsen Norge Nord-Jæren

- Dyrebeskyttelsen Norge Nord-Jæren (hereafter DNNJ) shall have no liability or obligations with respect to the cat's physical status, if not otherwise mentioned.
- **An adult cat must be kept inside for 8 weeks** after the adoption to ensure that they get attached to their new home. Cats need to get accustomed to their new home as well as new people, and it takes some time before the cat recognizes a new place as their own.
- **Kittens must not be let outside alone and without supervision until they are 12 months old.** The cats sense of direction is not fully matured before this age.
- The cat must be ID-tagged/chipped before they are allowed to roam outdoors, and always carry a collar with the new owners name, address and phone number. The collar should not be tighter than two fingers can fit under it, be reflective and have a safety release clip.
- We do not recommend buying pet food from a grocery store. Quality food from a pet store or a veterinary has major health benefits for the cat.
- We recommend strongly that the cat is kept inside at night, and be let out during the day, since the vast majority of hit and run accidents occur during evening and nighttime.
- Cats allowed to venture outside should regularly dewormed if recommended by their vet.
- The cat should not be put to sleep unless there is a report from the veterinarian that they are incurably ill or have been in a fatal accident. Contact us for consultation in advance if possible. The cat will need the supervision of a veterinarian if they get ill.
- If the cat only received their first round of vaccines prior to adoption, it is recommended the owner revaccinates the cat within stipulated time. **The owner is committed to annually vaccinate the cat. Combine this vet visit with a health check.** Annual health checks can often reveal serious diseases at an early stage. Keep in mind that cats also can suffer from toothache/cavities, and that this hurts as much for a cat that it does for us.
- All cats adopted from DNNJ will get spay/neuter, ID-chip and necessary vaccines (2 rounds of basic vaccine) included in the adoption fee. If this is not done prior to adoption it is mandatory for the new owner to ensure that this is done around the time recommended by DNNJ and at a veterinary clinic who have an agreement with DNNJ.
- When you book an appointment that is to be paid by us, you must inform that the cat is adopted from DNNJ and that we will pay for it. Give the veterinary the name the cat had when you adopted it. Send us an **email no later than 2 days before the appointment**, so we can confirm to the vet that we will pay. If the new owner does not follow the guidelines, they must pay any additional costs themselves.
- The cat is not allowed used for breeding purposes. Cats must be neutered when they are 4-6 months of age, if it hasn't been done before the adoption.
- The cat is not allowed to be sold or given to new owners. If rehoming is necessary, this must be done in consultation with DNNJ. The new owner must provide DNNJ with pictures and information about the cat for an add and allow for visitors who are interested in adopting. The cat must be health checked and vaccinated by the owner before being rehomed.
- If the cat should die or get lost, this shall be reported to us as quickly as possible because of the chip registration – and if the cat is lost, we can help with search posts, tips and advice.
- The adoption fee is expected to be paid at the latest on the adoption day, preferably in advance by bank transfer, and an adoption contract will be signed by both parties. The adoption home must bring a suitable transport carrier for the trip home – this will also be needed for later veterinary visits.
- Plan your holidays well in advance. Let someone watch the cat at home or use a kennel if necessary. Do not let anyone feed the cat outdoors, if they run out of cat food they can wander off and get lost. Keep the cat indoors, with access to food, water and litterbox. If applicable, install a cat flap. If the cat is looked after in another home, the cat should be kept inside
- The adopter is obligated to give the cat a good home and treat it in accordance with the law of animal welfare. If the cat is not treated in accordance the animal welfare law, DNNJ is the cat's supreme owner, and can claim the cat back from the new home.