

Beginner Level - 1 Cat Study Guide

Facts to know

- Long haired cats are generally more calm
- Short haired cats are active and playful and easier to care for than long haired cats.
- Male cats are usually more cozy and friendly. Females are generally more cautious.
- Males tend to be a little larger than females
- Some types of cancer are much less common in spayed cats.
- Two categories of cats
 - The popular housecat
 - The purebred (pedigree cat) – these are bred for certain qualities and usually eligible for exhibition in the show ring.
 - Show cats are classified into two groups; Long haired breeds and short haired breeds
- Cats have three body types:
 - Cobby – refers to round, heavy, compact, broad-chested or short legged body
 - Moderate – refers to all the breeds that are between cobby and foreign
 - Foreign – the body is slim, long, tubular sleek and firmly built
- Cats sweat through their paws
- Cats walk on their toes. The soles of their feet rarely touch the ground.
- The Manx is the only completely tailless breed of cat.
- Cats with long, lean bodies are generally more lively and friendly than cats with compact cobby bodies.
- Tongue is long and muscular.
- Pads are the sole of the foot. They are very sensitive and are used to feel texture, size, shape and temperature.
- Cats have more bones than humans have, mostly because of their tails.
- Most indoor cats sleep 18 hours a day.
- Purebred cats are recognized in part by the shape of their body parts.
- When handling a cat away from home or handling unfamiliar cats, you should use a harness and leash.
- When picking up your cat, put one hand under the chest behind its forelegs. Grasp both hind legs and tail with the other hand.
- When holding a cat, put one hand under the cat's rump and over the hind legs, ribs and back and press it to your front, keeping the cat's face away from your face.
- A mother cat can carry three kittens, one by one at intervals of 50 yards, for 10 miles before making a new home.
- Long haired cats should be groomed 15 minutes every day.
- Hair matting is where fleas hide and breeding areas for infections.
- Never use human toothpaste to brush your cats' teeth.
- Untreated ear mites can cause a serious ear infection and could harm your cat's hearing.
- When washing your cat, lay a screen on the bottom of the tub or sink for your cat to grasp with its claws.

- Common body parts that could be judged in a cat show are: teeth and gums, nose, eyes, and ears.
- Pet ownership is a privilege, not a right
- Understand the responsibilities of cat ownership.
- Most cats prefer to have food available at all times and to nibble small, frequent meals throughout the day.
- Understand the common household cat hazards.
- Know the signs of illness.
- In order to know signs of illness, you must first understand and know the normal behaviors of your cat.

Also know:

- Flea life cycle – Page 29
- Cat vaccinations – page 31
- Cat body parts – page 11
- Cat grooming – page 14-15
- Cat Breeds – page 8-9

Vocabulary words:

Attitude

Breed

Canine Teeth

Euthanize

Gestation

Hair Balls

Hock

Loin

Manx

Natural Breed

Hindquarters

Harness

Domestic

Litter

Queen

Tomcat

Vaccination

Instinct

Constipation

Inflammation

Parasite

Neuter

Spay