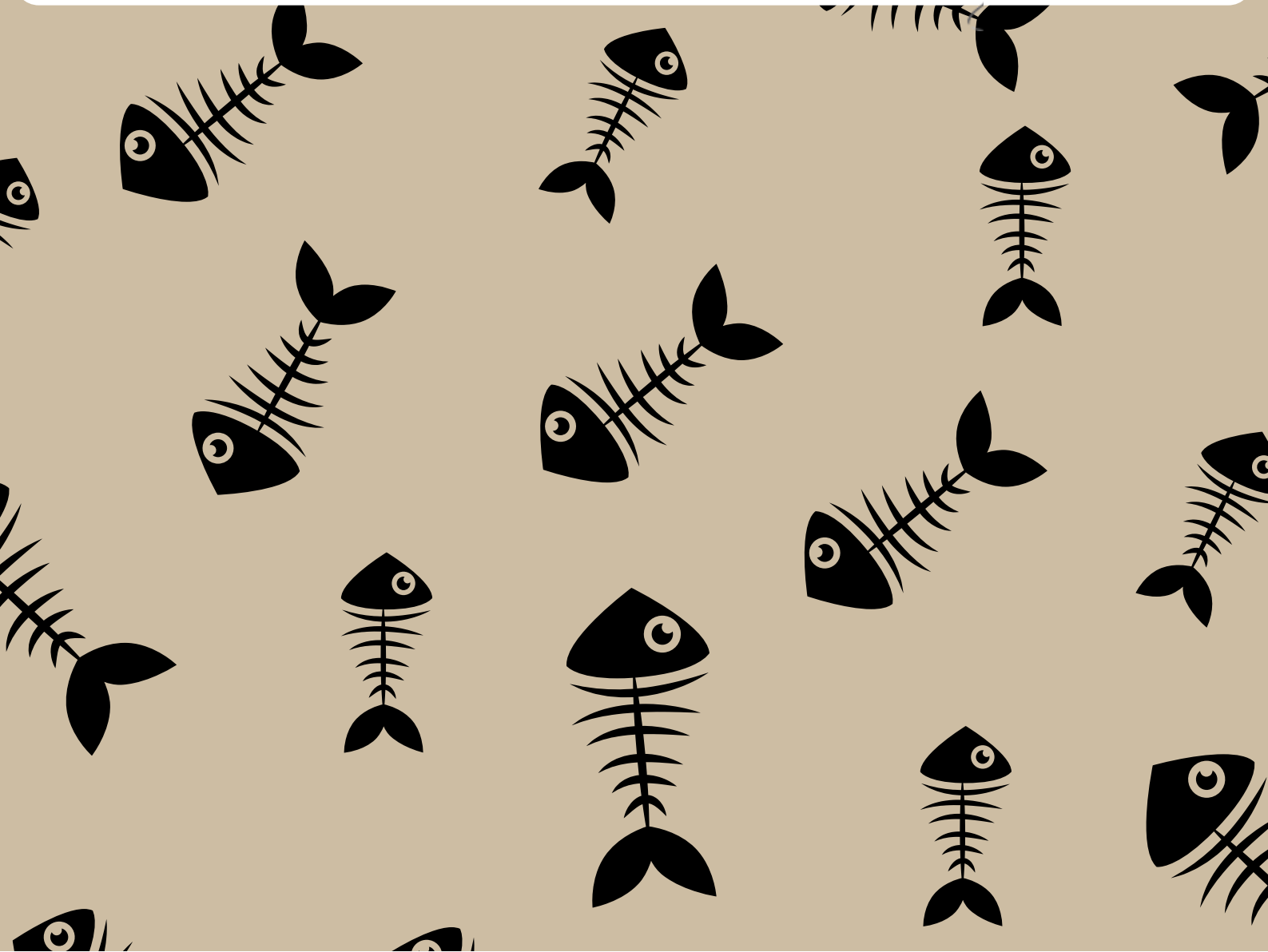


CAT INFO PACK

ANIMAL HOSPITALS OF THE
LOWCOUNTRY



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**SINCE 1956, THE SHULER
FAMILY HAS BEEN
CARING FOR YOUR PETS
AS OUR OWN.**

**EMPATHY,
COMMUNICATION, AND
INNOVATION ARE OUR
CORE VALUES.**

**AS A FAMILY-RUN
BUSINESS, WE ARE HERE
TO PROVIDE THE BEST
CARE TO YOUR FURRY
FRIENDS.**

**WHETHER YOU ARE A
NEW PET OWNER OR A
LONG-STANDING
OWNER, LET THIS PACK
BE A QUICK GUIDE.**

Kitten Exam/Vaccination Schedule

6 weeks:

- Fecal exam 1 of 2
- Deworming
- Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis/Calici/Chlamydia/Panleukopenia Vaccine (FVRCCP) 1 of 4
- Feline Leukemia/Feline immune deficiency test
- Heart worm/Intestinal parasite/flea/tick medication

9 weeks:

- Fecal exam 2 of 2
- FVRCCP (2 of 4)
- Risk-based vaccines
- Feline Leukimia/feline immune defiecy vaccine 2 of 2
- Heart worm/Intestinal parasite/flea/tick medication

12 weeks:

- FVRCCP (3 of 4)
- Heart worm/Intestinal parasite/flea/tick medication

15 weeks:

- FVRCCP (4 of 4)
- Rabies
- Heart worm/Intestinal parasite/flea/tick medication

Adult Exam/Vaccination Schedule

Annually:

- Rabies
- Feline viral
Rhinotracheitis/Calici/Chlamydia
/Panleukopenia Vaccine(FVRCP)
- Feline leukemia vaccine (FELV)*
- General blood screen

Every 6 months:

- Fecal Examination

Risk-based vaccines- highly recommended



Kitten Guide

0-6 months

KITTEN EXAM/VACCINATION SCHEDULE/GUIDE

This schedule is variable and will depend on the age of your furbaby at the first visit, previous medical history and risk assessment. Not all cats get the same vaccines. It will depend on the environment and lifestyle your new kitten will be exposed to and/or living in. Our veterinary team will recommend what vaccines your kitten will need based on this assessment.

6 weeks of age:

- Preventive Care Exam - Thorough head-to-tail exam by the veterinarian
- Fecal exam: for intestinal parasites which are very common in kittens and highly transmittable to humans. We recommend 2 negative fecal tests within a 3-week time frame before we stop deworming in-office.
- Kitten deworming to eliminate intestinal parasites
- Feline Rhinotracheitis/Calici/Chlamydia/Panleukopenia Vaccine (FVRCCP)- 1 of 4 in vaccine series.
- Feline Heartworm/Leukemia Virus Antigen/Feline Immunodeficiency Virus Antibody Combo Snap Test (HW/FELV/FIV test)-The results will determine how we move forward with vaccinations and treatment.

9 weeks of age:

- Preventive Care Exam
- Fecal exam
- Kitten deworming
- FVRCCP- 2 of 4 in vaccine series.

Risk-based vaccines can begin to be administered. This vaccine includes:

- Feline Leukemia Vaccine (FELV)-2 vaccine series. This is a potentially fatal disease. Infection with Feline Leukemia Virus can result in many serious health problems for your cat.

12 weeks of age:


- Preventive Care Exam
- FVRCCP- 3 of 4 vaccine
- Feline Leukemia Vaccine (FELV)- This is the 2nd and final vaccine in the Leukemia series


15 weeks of age:


- Preventive Care Exam
- FVRCCP- Vaccine 4 of 4
- Feline Rabies Vaccine (1 year) - this incurable viral disease affects the central nervous system. It is spread by a bite wound or a scratch that breaks the skin of an infected animal. There is NO cure. The state of SC requires us to vaccinate all kittens and adult cats annually or every 3 years.





Flea Facts

 Only **5%** of any given flea population is on the pet. **95% of EVERY flea population is in the environment.** You may have a problem without seeing the fleas.

 The cat flea (*Ctenocephalides felis*) is the flea found on **cats AND dogs.** This means you need to treat both dogs and cats.

 **Fleas do not jump from one dog to another.** Fleas are acquired from infestation of the premises, whether that is outdoors or indoors.

 **Once a flea jumps onto an animal, it immediately feeds and breeds, laying eggs within 24 hours.**

 A female can lay **50 eggs a day, each day it is alive!!! That's 2000 eggs in a lifetime!**

Adults

Most feed within 15 minutes of finding a host and every 30 minutes thereafter. They mate within 24 hours of emergence—launching the next generation of fleas in your home.

Larvae

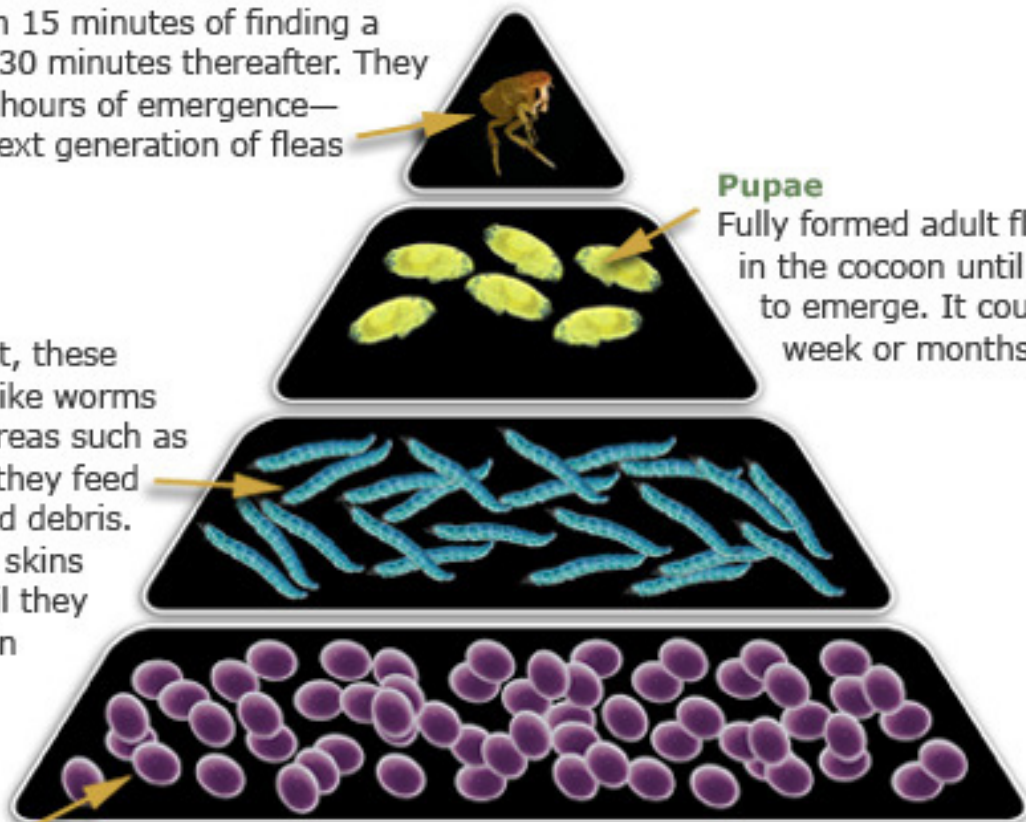
Repelled by light, these white, maggot-like worms seek out dark areas such as carpets, where they feed on flea feces and debris. They shed their skins three times until they are ready to spin a cocoon.

Pupae

Fully formed adult fleas remain in the cocoon until stimulated to emerge. It could take a week or months.

Eggs

8 Look closely, and you can see these pearl-white ovals with your naked eye. Female fleas lay up to 2,000 eggs in a lifetime. The eggs hatch within 2–7 days.



INTESTINAL PARASITES

Pets can be exposed through a variety of ways. They can become infected through contact with infected feces, either through ingestion or skin penetration. Some parasites can be transmitted from the mother to her babies across the placenta or through nursing. Finally, parasites can be transmitted to your pets through the ingestion of intermediate hosts, such as fleas, rodents, and rabbits.

What different types of intestinal parasites do pets get?

Dogs and cats both become infected with the following parasites:

TAPEWORMS: Transmitted by intermediate hosts, these parasites feed from the intestines. The shedding resembles small grains of rice, or if dried out, sesame seeds.

Symptoms: weight loss, increased appetite, and poor hair coat.

ROUNDWORMS: This parasite is commonly found in puppies and kittens, as it is transmitted across the placenta.

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, pot-bellied appearance.

HOOKWORMS: This parasite causes a serious health hazard in that it attaches directly to the intestinal wall, causing severe anemia and loss of blood.

Symptoms: Poor appetite, weight loss, black or bloody stool

WHIPWORMS: Primarily a canine parasite, infection occurs through ingestion of the egg.

Symptoms: intermittent diarrhea, often with mucus and flecks of blood.

COCCIDIA: These are transmitted primarily by fecal contamination.

Symptoms: Fatigue, dehydration, weight loss, diarrhea

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There are other parasites that very occasionally infect dogs and cats. Should these be present, your doctor will explain them at the time of diagnosis.

Spay/Neuter

Through research and innovation, we have curated a treatment plan that is individualized to each animal. Reach out to us for your pets personalized plan.

Benefits

Females (Spaying):

- Decreases the chance of uterine infections
- Eliminates cystic ovaries
- No unwanted pregnancies

Males (Neutering):

- Testicular disease is eliminated
- Decreases aggressive behavior
- Prevents marking territory

Procedure

Sterilization is recommended for animals 4-6 months old. Prior to this procedure, bloodwork will be performed to identify any unforeseen internal disorders.



Adult Guide

1-7 years

Vaccines/ Exam

Core Vaccines:

Rabies..... every 1-3yrs
FVRCP..... every 1-3yrs

Risk-Based Vaccines:

FELV..... every 2 years

Exams/Bloodwork:

Preventive Care Exam.....yearly check-up
Fecal Floatation.....every 6 months
HW/FELV/FIV test.....as needed
Preventative Bloodscreen.....every year
Preventative medicine.....year-round

Preventative Medicine

Preventative medicine is an essential key to keeping your animals healthy and happy. Listed below are some of the medications we use for prevention.

revolution[®]
PLUS 
(selamectin and sarolaner
topical solution)

Revolution Plus

**Fleas, ticks,
heartworm, ear
mites,
roundworms,
and hookworms**

1 dose a month



Senior Geriatric

7-9 years

10+ years

Personalized Care Plans

Each senior pet will receive an individualized care plan. To ease into their senior age, the following tests or considerations are discussed:

- **Sr. wellness profile:
thyroid
testing/urinalysis/fecal
screen/blood-work**
- **Behavioral/Cognitive
changes**
- **Mobility discussion**
- **Nutritional counseling**

Additional Precautions

Sr. cats are at high risk of developing hyperthyroidism, diabetes, and kidney disease. Along with health monitoring, we can take the following precautions:

Mobility

- Physical therapy
- Laser Therapy
- Accupuncture
- Nutrition support
- Medication:
 - Dasuquin supplement
 - Adequin Injection

Pain Management

- Metacam
- Gabapentin
- Solensia

Therapy

- Physical therapy
- Acupunture
- Laser therapy

Quality of life discussion

- When to know it's time to let go
- Euthanasia guidelines
- Grief support



General Tips

**Additional
resources for
cat parents of
all ages!**

Declawing Facts

KNOW THE TRUTH



Declawing = amputation of cat's toe at first joint
(like cutting off a human's first knuckle)

33%

of cats suffer at least one behavioral problem after declaw surgery

Illegal in
37 Countries
+ 8 U.S. Cities



- 18%** show increased biting
- 17%** suffer wounds re-opening
- 15%** will not use the litterbox
- 11%** suffer from lameness
- 10%** see nail regrowth

Declawing can produce:
Chronic pain
Arthritis/lameness
Nerve/tissue damage
Gangrene
Abscesses
Paw pad atrophy
Bone regrowth

up to 50%

of declawed cats develop acute physical complications



up to 20%

of declawed cats develop long-term physical complications

"The pain must be excruciating; it is certainly a gruesome spectacle to watch."
--A Vet Tech



75-90% of pet owners change their mind about declawing once they know the risks

"Claws are a physically, socially, and emotionally vital part of every cat."

--Jackson Galaxy, Cat Behaviorist



"Unlike routine recoveries... declawing surgery results in cats bouncing off the walls of the recovery cage because of excruciating pain..."

--Dr. Nicholas Dodman, DVM

Litterbox issues are

2x

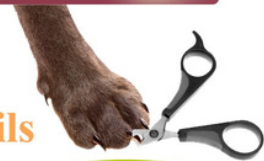
more common in declawed cats

Osteomyelitis affects

30%

of declawed cats (a painful bone infection)

You wouldn't declaw a dog... you trim his nails



Sources:

JAVMA (Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association), AVMA.org, Veterinary Medicine, DVM Best Practices, James Gaynor, DVM, Colorado State University Veterinary Medical School, proj360.com, pet360.com, littlebigcat.com, Vet Forum, paw-rescue.org, moggies.co.uk, declaw.lisaviolet.com, maxshouse.com, World Small Animal Veterinary Association, jacksongalaxy.com

TOXIC TO CATS

Toxic Food

- Alcohol
- Avocado
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Citrus
- Grapes
- Coconut
- Coconut oil
- Nuts
- Raw meat and eggs
- Salt/Sugar snacks
- Xylitol
- Yeast Dough

Toxic Plants

- Aloe Vera
- Poinsettia
- Sago Palm
- Tulips
- Azalea
- English Ivy
- Oleander
- Daffodils
- Mums
- Hydrangea

Food Recommendation



We recommend Royal Canin to all our pet parents. With a wide range of products, there are options for all your pet's needs.

You can purchase Royal Canin in all our offices, or order on our online store.

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<https://mpahandsvc.vetsfirstchoice.com/>

Payment Plans



Minimal credit checks, no hidden cost, no deferred interest

Accepted nationwide, help for out of pocket costs

Insurance



Instantly compare pet insurances to fit your needs.

Doctor Recommendation

Microchip

Boarding



Emergency Vet



After-hour calls



Guardian Vet