PET CLASSIFIEDS USA

40 Popular Cat Breed Mini-Guides

A practical starter library for people comparing cat breeds and preparing a thoughtful, lifelong home.

40 compact guides | 2 pages per cat | 2026 edition

Every guide covers home fit, temperament, grooming, activity, feeding, preventive veterinary care, vaccination planning, dental care, questions for the source, and a first-month checklist.

Choose the individual cat, not just the breed label

Breed guides describe common tendencies, not guarantees. A cat's age, health, early experience, environment and individual temperament matter. Meet the specific cat when possible and ask a veterinarian to review its health history before you decide.

This guide is for education and planning. It is not a diagnosis, prescription or substitute for veterinary care.

How to use this guide

The first 10 breeds follow the Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) 2026 registration ranking, which is based on the prior year's CFA registrations. CFA's cited release publishes its top 10. The remaining 30 are a curated selection of additional recognized and familiar breeds; they are not an official U.S. rank from 11 to 40.

Core care for every cat

Food and water. Choose a complete and balanced cat food labeled for the cat's life stage. Ask a veterinarian to set portions for age, activity, body condition and health; measure meals, keep fresh water available and avoid homemade diets or supplements unless a veterinary professional has formulated or recommended them.

Vaccines and prevention. Kittens commonly need a series of vaccines, while adult boosters depend on vaccine history, lifestyle, exposure risk, local rules and product. Ask the veterinarian for a written schedule for core vaccines, rabies where required, and any lifestyle-based vaccines; also discuss parasite prevention, microchipping and spay/neuter timing.

Exams and dental care. Arrange a veterinary exam soon after adoption and regular wellness visits thereafter. Ask about oral exams and how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing; never use human toothpaste. Changes in appetite, weight, litter habits, breathing, movement or behavior deserve veterinary advice.

Insurance and budget. Compare accident-and-illness coverage, exclusions, waiting periods, deductibles, reimbursement, annual limits and how pre-existing conditions are handled. Get quotes before a problem arises; also budget for routine care, grooming, food, litter and emergencies.

Responsible choice. Ask for records and meet the individual cat. Avoid claims that a breed is hypoallergenic. For unusual body features, ask about welfare and veterinary needs, not only appearance. Check housing and local regulations before bringing any cat home.

Ranking and care references

CFA, Most Popular Breeds for 2026: cfa.org/cat-talk/most-popular-breeds-for-2026/ | CFA breed directory: cfa.org/breeds/ | TICA breed profiles: tica.org/all-about-cats/

AVMA, Selecting a pet cat: avma.org/resources/pet-owners/petcare/selecting-pet-cat | Cornell Feline Health Center: vet.cornell.edu/departments-centers-and-institutes/cornell-feline-health-center

Cornell topics include feline nutrition, vaccines and dental disease. Individual vaccine and feeding decisions should be made with a veterinarian.

01 | Maine Coon

CFA 2026 registration rank: #1 of its top 10 | gentle giant; needs space, grooming and enrichment

COAT	ACTIVITY
Long, dense, weather-resistant coat	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Sociable, clever, playful; many enjoy being near people and observing household activity.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A roomy, enriched home that can accommodate a large cat, regular coat care, sturdy climbing and a long-term food and veterinary budget.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb through the ruff, belly and hindquarters several times weekly; offer robust climbing, puzzle feeding and interactive play. Keep large water and litter stations easy to reach.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Maine Coon | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about adult size, family history and any recommended cardiac screening. Discuss body condition and joint comfort with the veterinarian; large size alone is not a health diagnosis.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What are the parents' adult size and health history? Which screening records can you share? How does this cat handle brushing, nail care and being lifted?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

02 | Ragdoll

CFA 2026 registration rank: #2 of its top 10 | affectionate reputation; choose by the individual cat's comfort

COAT	ACTIVITY
Semi-long, silky coat; color-point patterns	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often people-oriented and relaxed, with playful periods; individuals vary in how much handling they enjoy.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that can provide company, gentle play, routine brushing and safe indoor enrichment. Plan ahead for time alone and gradual introductions.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush the chest, sides and trousers several times each week; check for tangles. Use wand play and food puzzles, and provide low-to-mid height routes as well as high perches.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Ragdoll | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for family health history and screening documentation, including any breeder-recommended cardiac testing. Never assume a Ragdoll will tolerate being carried; let the cat choose contact.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What health tests were done on the parents? How does this cat signal that it wants space? What food, litter and routine are familiar?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

03 | Persian

CFA 2026 registration rank: #3 of its top 10 | coat care and facial comfort need active attention

COAT	ACTIVITY
Very long, dense coat; flat-faced varieties	Low to moderate

Breed snapshot

Often gentle and calm; many prefer predictable surroundings and short, low-key play sessions.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A patient household able to groom daily, clean facial areas as advised, keep the home calm and budget for regular veterinary care.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Use a gentle daily combing routine to prevent mats; introduce grooming in brief positive steps. Keep eyes and face folds clean only as instructed by a veterinarian, and use easy-access resources.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Persian | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask a veterinarian to assess breathing, eye comfort, teeth and skin. Request transparent family health history and appropriate screening; breathing effort or persistent discharge deserves prompt veterinary advice.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Can I see the parents' breathing and eye comfort? What grooming does this cat accept? Which veterinary checks and tests are documented?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

04 | Exotic Shorthair

CFA 2026 registration rank: #4 of its top 10 | short coat does not remove the need to check facial comfort

COAT	ACTIVITY
Plush, dense short coat; flat-faced varieties	Low to moderate

Breed snapshot

Often quiet and affectionate, with playful bursts; likes a comfortable resting spot and gentle interaction.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A calm home that can monitor facial comfort, maintain coat care and offer interactive play without expecting a highly athletic cat.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly and more during shedding; clean around the face only as the veterinarian recommends. Keep toys and food puzzles close to the floor and provide accessible resting places.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Exotic Shorthair | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Because face shape varies, ask a veterinarian to check breathing, eyes, skin and dental alignment. Request family health history and records rather than relying on appearance or breed label.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Does the cat breathe comfortably while resting and playing? What eye or dental care is needed? What tests and records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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05 | Devon Rex

CFA 2026 registration rank: #5 of its top 10 | busy, warm-seeking companion with gentle coat-care needs

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, fine, wavy coat; delicate whiskers	High

Breed snapshot

Frequently curious, active and people-focused; some follow household routines and seek warm resting places.

Who may enjoy this cat?

An interactive home with daily play, safe climbing, company and gentle handling. Provide warm beds and protect fragile skin from harsh grooming.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Use a soft cloth or gentle brush only as tolerated; avoid vigorous brushing. Clean ears and nails when needed with veterinary guidance. Rotate puzzle toys and schedule short play bouts.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Devon Rex | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask the veterinarian about skin, ear wax and dental care. Check whether the cat is comfortable at a healthy temperature and how it tolerates routine handling.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat react to grooming and ear cleaning? What daily play does it enjoy? What health screening and care records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

06 | Abyssinian

CFA 2026 registration rank: #6 of its top 10 | bright, active cat that benefits from daily jobs and play

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, close-lying ticked coat	High

Breed snapshot

Alert, athletic and inquisitive; often wants to explore and participate rather than sit quietly for long stretches.

Who may enjoy this cat?

An active indoor home with vertical space, climbing routes, daily interactive play and secure windows. Consider the cat's need for company and mental work.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Weekly brushing is usually simple. Provide tall stable cat trees, food puzzles, clicker-style reward activities and supervised play. Rotate toys to keep novelty without overstimulation.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Abyssinian | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask the breeder or rescue about family health history and appropriate breed-line screening. Discuss dental checks and a weight plan with the veterinarian; individual needs vary.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What activity level does this individual show? How does it handle other pets and quiet time? What screening and veterinary records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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07 | British Shorthair

CFA 2026 registration rank: #7 of its top 10 | calm presence; keep movement and healthy weight on the plan

COAT	ACTIVITY
Dense plush short coat	Low to moderate

Breed snapshot

Often steady and reserved; many enjoy being nearby while preferring paws-on-the-floor affection.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A predictable home that respects boundaries and uses play to support healthy movement. Avoid overfeeding and do not assume a calm cat needs no enrichment.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly and more often during seasonal shedding. Use short daily play sessions, low climbing options and food puzzles; monitor body condition with the veterinarian.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

British Shorthair | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family history and the breeder's recommended screening. Discuss weight, heart health and dental care with a veterinarian based on the individual cat's exam and records.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat prefer to be touched? What weight and diet history is known? Which health screens and veterinary records can you review?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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08 | Siberian

CFA 2026 registration rank: #8 of its top 10 | thick coat and activity needs are more reliable than allergy claims

COAT	ACTIVITY
Triple-layered semi-long coat	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often confident, playful and people-oriented; many enjoy climbing and active games.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home ready for seasonal coat care, climbing space and interactive routines. Allergy reactions vary; no breed can be promised allergy-free.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times weekly and daily during heavy seasonal shedding; check dense areas behind legs and under the ruff. Offer stable climbing and daily play.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Siberian | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Discuss family health history and suitable cardiac or other screening with the veterinarian or a responsible breeder. If allergies are a concern, spend time with the specific cat before committing and consult a clinician.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat respond to brushing? What health and screening records are available? Can all household members spend time with this individual cat first?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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09 | American Shorthair

CFA 2026 registration rank: #9 of its top 10 | adaptable companion; verify identity and maintain an active routine

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, dense coat in many colors and patterns	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often adaptable and easygoing, with an independent streak; individual cats may be playful, quiet or highly social.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A broad range of homes if the cat receives daily interaction, scratching surfaces and opportunities to move. Watch portions because a sturdy build can mask weight gain.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly; add brushing during shedding. Set up scratchers, window perches and daily chase or puzzle play. Measure food and track body condition with a veterinarian.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

American Shorthair | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about verified pedigree and health history if buying from a breeder; color or appearance alone does not establish breed. Schedule regular exams and dental assessment.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What evidence supports the breed identification? What routine and diet is the cat used to? Which veterinary, vaccine and parasite records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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10 | Russian Blue

CFA 2026 registration rank: #10 of its top 10 | gentle routine and consent-based socializing build trust

COAT	ACTIVITY
Dense double short coat, blue-silver sheen	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often observant and reserved with new people, then affectionate with trusted family; routine can help confidence.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A quieter household that offers hiding places, predictable introductions and play chosen by the individual cat. Give the cat time to approach.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Weekly brushing is generally manageable. Provide puzzle feeding, wand play and calm resting spots; introduce visitors and carriers gradually with rewards.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Russian Blue | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for health records and any lineage-specific screening recommended by the breeder and veterinarian. Discuss dental care, weight and preventive care at regular exams.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat warm up to unfamiliar people? What quiet space does it use? Can I see pedigree, vaccine and veterinary records?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

11 | American Bobtail

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | short tail is a trait; movement and comfort matter more

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short or semi-long coat; naturally short tail	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often intelligent, playful and social; can enjoy interactive games and learning household routines.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home with varied enrichment, secure play and time for company. Tail length and shape vary; never judge health or personality by tail appearance alone.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly, more for long-coated cats. Offer puzzle toys, short training games and sturdy perches. Keep play safe and avoid rough handling of the tail or back.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

American Bobtail | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask a veterinarian to assess mobility and spine comfort, especially if the cat has an unusual tail or movement. Request family health history and routine exam records.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What is known about the cat's mobility and litter habits? Which screening was performed? How does it respond to handling and play?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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12 | American Curl

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | distinctive ears call for gentle handling and vet-guided care

COAT	ACTIVITY
Longhair or shorthair; ears curl backward	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often friendly and curious; many enjoy family activity while adapting to calm routines.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that can provide attention and enrichment while handling ears gently. The distinctive ear shape should never be pulled, bent or used to lift the cat.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly or several times weekly for longhair. Ask the veterinarian to show safe ear checks and cleaning if needed; do not insert cotton swabs into the ear canal.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

American Curl | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Have a veterinarian examine ear canals, skin and hearing as part of routine care. Ask about family history and documented health exams.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What ear-care routine has the cat tolerated? Are there veterinary notes about ears or hearing? What behavior and vaccine records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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13 | Balinese

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | social and vocal; plan enrichment and companionship

COAT	ACTIVITY
Fine, silky semi-long coat; color-point	High

Breed snapshot

Often vocal, social and clever; many seek conversation, play and close involvement with their people.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that enjoys an interactive companion and can provide daily play and company. Plan for a talkative cat and safe climbing routes.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb once or twice weekly and check the tail plume. Use puzzle feeders, training games and interactive toys; provide a calm retreat when the household is busy.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Balinese | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family health history and screening used in the breeding line. Discuss dental care and any concerns from the Siamese-related family line with the veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How vocal and social is this individual? What happens when left alone? Which health tests and veterinary records can be reviewed?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

14 | Bengal

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | high-energy domestic cat; enrichment and local rules matter

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, sleek coat with spotted or marbled pattern	Very high

Breed snapshot

Typically curious and energetic; some enjoy water play, climbing and learning games, but temperament varies.

Who may enjoy this cat?

An experienced, active home able to provide daily enrichment, secure climbing and attention. Check local rules and the cat's documented generation where relevant.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Weekly brushing is usually light. Build a daily play plan with climbing, food puzzles and supervised water-safe activities; secure windows and balconies.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Bengal | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for clear pedigree and generation documentation, behavior history and appropriate breed-line health testing. Confirm city, state and housing rules before adopting or buying.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What generation and registry records are documented? What daily activity does this cat need? How does it behave with children, pets and confinement?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

15 | Birman

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | soft coat, calm reputation, and individual social preferences

COAT	ACTIVITY
Silky semi-long coat; color-point with white paws	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often gentle and people-oriented; many enjoy companionship but still need choice and quiet space.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home able to provide regular grooming and interaction. Consider a compatible companion only if the individual cat enjoys other animals.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times a week, especially around the trousers and ruff. Offer daily play, scratchers and accessible resting areas; avoid forcing lap time.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Birman | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Request family health history and screening records from a responsible source. Discuss kidney, heart and dental questions with the veterinarian without assuming an individual diagnosis.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What grooming is this cat comfortable with? What health tests or family records exist? How does it react to other pets and visitors?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

16 | Bombay

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | companionable energy needs daily play and boundaries

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, close black coat with copper or gold eyes	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often people-focused and playful; some enjoy following family members and learning routines.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home able to offer attention and regular interactive play. Make sure the cat has a retreat and safe ways to observe activity.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly and check nails and teeth. Use short play sessions, food puzzles and scratchers; keep indoor resources spread out in multi-cat homes.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Bombay | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for pedigree, family history and routine veterinary documentation. Discuss heart, breathing and dental observations based on the actual cat, not its coat color.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat communicate when it wants attention or space? What health records are available? Which food and routines are familiar?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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17 | Burmese

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | social companion; plan for time together and safe independence

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, fine, satin-like coat	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often outgoing and affectionate; may seek company and communicate frequently.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A household with time for interaction and play. If people are away for long days, plan enrichment and discuss compatible companionship based on the cat's personality.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** A weekly soft brush is usually enough. Rotate toys, add puzzle feeders and provide secure high perches. Teach carrier comfort with short reward-based sessions.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Burmese | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family health history and testing appropriate to the line. Plan veterinary exams, dental care and weight monitoring; seek advice for any change in appetite or behavior.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Does this cat enjoy another cat's company or prefer being alone? Which screening and veterinary records can you see? How does it handle the carrier?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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18 | Chartreux

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | quiet does not mean inactive; gentle daily play supports health

COAT	ACTIVITY
Dense woolly blue-gray coat	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often quiet, observant and affectionate in a low-key way; may prefer familiar people and steady routines.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A calm home with gentle daily play and a respectful approach to handling. Provide a quiet retreat and avoid interpreting silence as lack of needs.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly; use a comb through the dense undercoat during shedding. Encourage movement with short interactive games and monitor weight with the veterinarian.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Chartreux | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Discuss dental and general preventive care at routine visits. Request health and pedigree records; ask a veterinarian about any specific family-history concerns.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat respond to unfamiliar people and handling? What brushing does it accept? Can the source provide records and routine details?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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19 | Cornish Rex

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | active and warm-seeking with a fine coat

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, fine, soft waves; little guard hair	High

Breed snapshot

Often athletic, playful and affectionate; may seek warmth and human company.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A lively indoor home with climbing opportunities, warm resting places and time for games. Protect the cat from cold drafts and rough handling.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Use gentle grooming; too much brushing can irritate the fine coat. Check ears and nails regularly with vet-guided technique. Add daily climbing and food puzzles.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Cornish Rex | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about skin, ear and dental history and any breed-line screening. Discuss safe temperature, body condition and exercise with the veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What grooming does this cat tolerate? Does it have a comfortable warm resting area? Which health and vaccine records can be reviewed?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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20 | Egyptian Mau

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | athletic, alert, and best supported by secure routines

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short spotted coat; athletic build	High

Breed snapshot

Often alert, fast and devoted to familiar people; may be cautious in new settings.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A secure home with daily chase play, vertical space and patient introductions. Take special care around open doors and windows.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Weekly brushing; offer sturdy climbing, food puzzles and short high-energy play. Let the cat settle at its own pace, especially after a move.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Egyptian Mau | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family health history and screening advised by the breed association or veterinarian. Discuss dental care and injury prevention for an athletic indoor cat.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat respond to strangers and change? What activity and safety routine works? Which health tests and veterinary records exist?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

21 | Havana Brown

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | interactive companion with a short, easy-care coat

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, smooth warm-brown coat	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often sociable and curious; may enjoy interactive play and close contact with trusted people.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that can provide company and mental enrichment. Offer choice in affection and avoid leaving the cat without stimulation for long periods.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly with a soft brush. Provide scratchers, puzzle feeding and daily play; introduce handling for nails and teeth gradually.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Havana Brown | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for pedigree and health records, and discuss any family-line concerns with the veterinarian. Maintain a healthy weight and regular dental checks.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What social routine suits this cat? Which health exams and tests are documented? What food, litter and grooming routine are established?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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22 | Himalayan

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | high coat-care commitment; assess facial comfort carefully

COAT	ACTIVITY
Long coat; color-point; flat-faced varieties	Low to moderate

Breed snapshot

Often calm and affectionate, with a preference for comfortable, familiar surroundings.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A patient home that can keep a daily coat routine, monitor facial comfort and support gentle indoor activity.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb daily to prevent mats; use only vet-approved methods around eyes and face. Offer low-impact toys and easy access to food, water and litter.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Himalayan | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask a veterinarian about facial structure, breathing, eyes, teeth and skin. Request family health history, relevant screening records and clear grooming expectations.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Can I observe comfortable breathing at rest? What eye and coat care does the cat need? Which health checks and records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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23 | Japanese Bobtail

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | playful bobtail; assess comfort rather than tail shape

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short or long coat; pom-pom tail	High

Breed snapshot

Often playful, vocal and social; many enjoy games and household participation.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home able to offer daily interaction, safe climbing and a patient introduction to new people or pets.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly, more for longhair. Use puzzle toys and interactive play; handle the tail gently and never pull or lift the cat by it.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Japanese Bobtail | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask the veterinarian to assess mobility and tail comfort, and review general health history. Request registration, vaccine and routine exam documentation.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat move, jump and use the litter box? What activity keeps it settled? What veterinary and family records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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24 | Korat

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | sensitive, close-bonding cat benefits from calm consistency

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, single coat with silver-tipped blue	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often sensitive, clever and strongly attached to familiar people; may be reserved with strangers.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A stable, quieter home that lets the cat approach gradually and provides companionship without crowding.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly and offer predictable play and food puzzles. Set up a secure hideaway and introduce visitors, carriers and household changes gently.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Korat | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for pedigree, family health history and appropriate screening records. Discuss dental health and routine wellness checks with a veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat respond to new people and sounds? What routine helps it feel safe? Which testing and medical records can be reviewed?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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25 | LaPerm

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | curl pattern varies; grooming should follow this cat's coat

COAT	ACTIVITY
Curly or wavy coat, short or long	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often affectionate and curious; may enjoy being near people while remaining an individual in handling preferences.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that can tailor grooming to the actual coat and provide regular play. Ask the breeder or rescue how the coat changes with age and season.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Use a wide-tooth comb or gentle fingers as appropriate; avoid overbrushing curls. Check skin and ears and provide scratchers, play and accessible resting spots.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

LaPerm | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask the veterinarian to review skin and coat health and any family history. Request routine exams, vaccination and parasite-prevention records.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What grooming tools suit this cat's coat? Does the coat shed or change seasonally? Which health and pedigree records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

26 | Manx

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | tail variation makes veterinary mobility and elimination checks important

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short or long coat; tail length varies	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often playful and people-oriented; may enjoy games and active exploration.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A secure home with movement opportunities and a careful eye on comfort, toileting and mobility. Do not select solely for a very short tail.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly or more for longhair. Provide stable steps, low-entry litter access if needed and daily play suited to mobility.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Manx | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask a veterinarian to assess spine, gait, bladder and bowel function, especially if the cat has a very short tail or any difficulty moving or toileting. Request clear family history.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Does the cat walk, jump and toilet comfortably? What has the veterinarian checked? Which signs should prompt follow-up?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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27 | Norwegian Forest Cat

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | large forest breed needs vertical enrichment and seasonal combing

COAT	ACTIVITY
Long, water-resistant double coat	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often independent yet social, with strong climbing interests and a playful side.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home with sturdy vertical space, seasonal coat care and room for a large cat to move comfortably.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times weekly, increasing during seasonal shedding; check behind ears, underarms and legs. Offer climbing, puzzle feeders and play that does not rely on outdoor roaming.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Norwegian Forest Cat | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Discuss family health history and suitable screening with a veterinarian or responsible breeder. Monitor weight, movement and grooming comfort during seasonal coat changes.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat handle combing? What is known about parent health and screening? What climbing and play routine does it prefer?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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28 | Ocicat

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | athletic and social; plan for structured daily engagement

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short spotted coat	High

Breed snapshot

Often confident, athletic and social; many enjoy training, games and structured attention.

Who may enjoy this cat?

An active home able to provide daily play, safe climbing, secure windows and companionship. Consider whether the household enjoys a busy, interactive cat.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Weekly brushing is generally light. Offer food puzzles, fetch-like games if the cat enjoys them, and short positive training sessions; provide a calm break area.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Ocicat | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for family history and relevant screening documents. Discuss dental care, body condition and activity needs with the veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What games does this cat enjoy? How does it behave when left alone? What health and vaccine records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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29 | Oriental Shorthair

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | high-contact personality; short coat still needs daily care and play

COAT	ACTIVITY
Very short, close coat; many colors	High

Breed snapshot

Often vocal, clever and people-focused; may want active involvement and regular conversation.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that enjoys frequent interaction and can provide climbing, play and companionship. Plan enrichment if people are away during the day.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** A soft weekly wipe or brush is usually enough. Add puzzle feeders, training and sturdy vertical routes. Provide warm bedding and a secure retreat.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Oriental Shorthair | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family history and breed-line screening. Discuss oral health, body condition and any concerns the veterinarian finds during regular exams.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How talkative and active is this cat? What support does it need during time alone? Which tests and veterinary records can you see?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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30 | Ragamuffin

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | gentle reputation; handling should always follow the cat's cues

COAT	ACTIVITY
Plush semi-long coat	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often gentle and people-oriented; individuals differ in confidence and desire for handling.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home able to provide regular brushing and companionship while respecting the cat's signals and size.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times a week, checking the ruff and hindquarters. Schedule daily play and supply scratchers, hiding spots and accessible litter areas.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Ragamuffin | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Request family health history and screening records. Ask the veterinarian to assess weight, heart and dental health based on the cat's history and examination.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does the cat show it wants space? What grooming has it accepted? Which parent health records and screening are documented?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

31 | Savannah

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | hybrid status, care demands and local restrictions require advance checks

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short spotted coat; hybrid ancestry varies by generation	Very high

Breed snapshot

Often bold, athletic and curious; individual needs can be demanding, especially in early generations.

Who may enjoy this cat?

Only after careful research into generation, experience, household fit, local laws and housing rules. Prioritize welfare and a safe, enriched indoor environment.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Groom weekly and provide substantial daily enrichment, secure climbing and supervised play. Do not assume an ordinary low-activity routine will meet this cat's needs.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Savannah | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Before commitment, confirm generation documents and legality with local authorities. Ask a veterinarian experienced with hybrid cats about care, health, behavior and safe handling.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What generation and registration are documented? Is ownership legal where I live? What specialist veterinary and enrichment plan is in place?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

32 | Scottish Fold

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | welfare caution: folded-ear trait may cause painful skeletal disease

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short or long coat; folded ears	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often calm and companionable; temperament varies and should be assessed in the individual cat.

Who may enjoy this cat?

Consider welfare first. Folded ears are linked to cartilage changes that can affect joints and cause pain; adoption or rescue may be preferable to supporting breeding for the trait.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Groom according to coat length and provide low-impact play. Avoid forcing jumps or handling. Watch for stiffness, reluctance to move, sensitivity or changes in litter habits and contact a veterinarian.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Scottish Fold | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Arrange a veterinary assessment of gait, joints and comfort. Ask about pain monitoring and ongoing costs. Do not treat a folded ear as merely cosmetic.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Has a veterinarian assessed movement and pain? What support is available if mobility worsens? Can the cat be adopted without encouraging harmful breeding?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

33 | Selkirk Rex

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | curl care varies; keep an eye on body condition under the plush coat

COAT	ACTIVITY
Plush curly coat; short or long	Moderate

Breed snapshot

Often patient and easygoing, with a playful side; the thick coat can make this cat appear larger than it is.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home able to keep a coat routine and provide moderate daily activity. Choose grooming methods for the coat texture and the individual cat.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb gently several times weekly, especially longhair; avoid brushing that breaks curls. Check ears, nails and skin and use puzzle play to maintain engagement.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Selkirk Rex | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family history and breed-line testing and discuss coat, skin and dental care with a veterinarian. Monitor weight beneath the plush coat.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What coat changes occur with age or season? What health screens are documented? How does the cat tolerate combing and nail care?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

34 | Siamese

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | social and communicative; interaction is part of the daily care plan

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, close coat; color-point pattern	High

Breed snapshot

Often vocal, social and intelligent; many seek regular company and interactive play.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A household ready for conversation, companionship and training games. Plan a safe routine for time alone and a quiet place when the cat needs rest.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly. Provide daily play, puzzle feeding, scratchers and a carrier-positive routine. Keep screens secure and doors managed for an active indoor cat.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Siamese | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for family history and appropriate testing from a responsible breeder. Review dental health and any line-specific concerns with the veterinarian; maintain routine checks.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How vocal is this individual? What does it do when alone? Which health screens, vaccination history and veterinary records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

35 | Singapura

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | small cat still needs play, choice and a full veterinary care plan

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, fine ticked coat; small-bodied	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often playful, curious and people-oriented; small stature does not mean fragile or low-activity.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home with safe climbing steps, gentle play and careful supervision around larger pets or young children.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly and use interactive toys, low-impact climbing and puzzle feeding. Ensure food and litter areas are easy to reach without competition from larger animals.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Singapura | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about adult size, family history and screening records. Discuss healthy growth, nutrition, dental care and body condition with a veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What handling is comfortable? Has growth been steady? What food, medical and vaccination records can the source provide?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

36 | Somali

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | athletic and curious; coat and enrichment both need a plan

COAT	ACTIVITY
Semi-long ticked coat with plumed tail	High

Breed snapshot

Often lively, curious and athletic; many enjoy solving puzzles and observing activity from high places.

Who may enjoy this cat?

An active indoor home with safe climbing, daily play and regular grooming. Provide rest breaks and a predictable retreat.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times weekly, especially the tail and trousers. Rotate puzzle feeders and toys, and use short reward-based training sessions.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Somali | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family health history and screening suited to the line. Discuss dental, weight and preventive care with the veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What activity level does this cat show? How does it respond to combing? Which health screens and routine records are documented?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

37 | Sphynx

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | hairless does not mean no grooming; skin and temperature care matter

COAT	ACTIVITY
Hairless or nearly hairless; skin needs care	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often warm-seeking and people-oriented; many enjoy close companionship and active play.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home that can protect skin from sun, cold and rough surfaces and provide warmth, company and routine skin care.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Ask a veterinarian how often bathing is appropriate; overbathing can irritate skin. Clean skin folds, ears and nails as advised, use safe warm bedding and protect from direct sun.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Sphynx | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Discuss skin, ears, heart screening and temperature comfort with a veterinarian. Request family testing records and avoid applying human creams or sunscreen without veterinary advice.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What skin-care schedule works? What heart or other screening has been completed? How does the cat stay warm and safe in this home?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

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38 | Tonkinese

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | social energy calls for interaction, routine and choice

COAT	ACTIVITY
Short, smooth coat; pointed or mink colors	High

Breed snapshot

Often playful, outgoing and social; many enjoy games and close company.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A household that can provide regular interaction and exercise. If away often, plan enrichment and carefully assess whether another animal would be a good match.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Brush weekly. Provide climbing, puzzle feeders and play; introduce grooming and carrier travel with rewards.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Tonkinese | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask about family history and appropriate screening. Discuss dental care and weight with the veterinarian, and keep records of routine preventive visits.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- How does this cat handle time alone? What play and companionship does it prefer? Which health and vaccination records can you review?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

39 | Turkish Angora

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | agile companion; assess hearing individually when indicated

COAT	ACTIVITY
Silky semi-long coat; fine texture	Moderate to high

Breed snapshot

Often agile, confident and curious; may bond closely and want to inspect household activity.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A home with safe high perches, interaction and grooming. Color does not determine personality; white cats with blue eyes may need hearing evaluation.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb several times weekly and check the tail plume. Provide daily play and secure climbing; ask the veterinarian about hearing if there is any concern.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Turkish Angora | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Review family health and hearing history, especially for a white, blue-eyed cat. Request veterinary checks and screening records from the source.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- Has hearing been assessed if relevant? What grooming and activity does this cat enjoy? Which health and pedigree documents are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.

40 | Turkish Van

Curated additional breed - not individually ranked in the CFA top-10 source | energetic, independent cat; water interest is individual, not guaranteed

COAT	ACTIVITY
Semi-long, water-resistant coat; often patterned head and tail	High

Breed snapshot

Often active and independent; some enjoy water-related play, but not every cat will.

Who may enjoy this cat?

A secure, enriched home with climbing and active games. Supervise water play and never leave a cat near open water or unsafe tubs.

Everyday care

- **Coat:** Comb weekly and more during shedding. Provide interactive play, scratchers and stable climbing; keep windows and balconies secured.
- **Play and home:** Build a daily routine around the listed activity level; use safe indoor enrichment, scratching surfaces, hiding places and clean litter resources.

Feeding and weight

Feed a complete and balanced food for the correct life stage. Ask your veterinarian to set portions and reassess body condition; do not choose a diet, add vitamins or restrict food solely because of breed. Keep fresh water available and track appetite and weight changes.

A note on temperament

These are broad breed tendencies. Meet the individual cat and ask about its observed behavior with handling, visitors, children, other animals, time alone and change.

Turkish Van | Health and home plan

Use the cat's records and your veterinarian's advice to make this plan individual.

Health conversations

Ask for family history and routine screening and discuss dental, joint and general preventive care with the veterinarian.

Questions for the shelter, rescue or breeder

- What play does this individual enjoy? Does it show any handling or water-related stress? Which health and vaccination records are available?
- Can you provide dates and records for exams, vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip, medications and any screening? What is still unknown?
- What food, litter, grooming, handling and daily routine is familiar? What support is available after adoption or purchase?

Veterinary visit checklist

- Bring all records. Ask for an exam and an individualized plan for vaccines, parasite prevention, microchip and spay/neuter timing.
- Ask about complete nutrition, measured portions, body condition, water intake and any age- or health-related diet needs.
- Request an oral and dental check; ask how to introduce cat-safe tooth brushing and what signs need follow-up.
- Ask which breed-line screening, mobility, skin, eye, ear or heart checks are relevant for this individual and its history.

First month at home

- Prepare a quiet base room, familiar food and litter, safe carrier, scratching options, resting and hiding places; secure windows and balconies.
- Keep introductions gradual. Let the cat approach; use short positive grooming and play sessions, then stop before it becomes stressed.
- Write down appetite, water intake, litter habits, energy and questions for the follow-up visit.

Cost and insurance

Compare policies before enrollment: covered conditions, exclusions, waiting periods, deductible, reimbursement, annual cap and pre-existing-condition rules. Set aside funds for routine exams, vaccines, dental care, grooming and emergencies; coverage and price vary by cat and location.

My fit check: Can I meet this cat's activity, coat-care, companionship, veterinary and budget needs for its lifetime? Yes / Not yet

Sources for this guide: CFA and TICA breed information; AVMA cat selection guidance; Cornell Feline Health Center nutrition, vaccine and dental resources. Breed notes are educational summaries, not medical claims.