

DIET AND CARE

First, let's talk about food!

To stay healthy, your cat needs a daily intake of high-quality nutrients (proteins, minerals, vitamins, trace elements, etc.). Therefore, it is in your best interest to pay close attention to what goes into their bowl.

Having tried almost every trend, we chose premium kibble as a baseline diet, as it contains most of the required nutrients and is easy to serve.

But that is not all. No matter how good it is, serving the exact same dish every day risks creating deficiencies or simply boring your companion over time.

What are the main downsides of kibbles? I see two major ones: their dry nature and their insufficient protein content.

That is why we supplement their diet with wet food (pouches, pâté, etc.), which helps prevent kidney issues, and raw or cooked fresh food rich in protein (meats, fish, etc.).

What Does YOUR KITTEN Eat?

Kibbles

Your kitten currently eats Royal Canin Kitten kibbles and Royal Canin Kitten wet pouches. We highly advise you to continue with this diet until they are at least one year old.

Several weeks before your kitten leaves for your home, you will receive an email from Royal Canin containing the specific recommendations we advise, along with a 30% discount code for your first order.

Royal Canin represents science in the bowl; they always deliver on their promises and offer a very wide range of products (Kitten, Sterilised, Hair & Skin, Gastrointestinal, Mother & Baby Cat, to name a few). Plus, it is Made in France! The Royal Canin factory is located in the Gard department, a region very dear to our hearts.

Natural Fresh Food

In addition to their daily food, you can offer your cat:

- Raw or cooked poultry
- Raw beef
- Raw poultry hearts / livers / gizzards
- Raw quail eggs
- Hard-boiled eggs
- Cooked or raw fish (always freeze raw fish for a few days first!)
- Raw or cooked shrimp...

A Few Rules to Follow:

- Kibbles and fresh water must be accessible all day long.
- Do not weigh the kibbles and never restrict your cat unless they are obese!!!
- Wet food should be given once a day (half a pouch).
- Natural fresh food can be offered 2 to 3 times a week.
- Watch out for sudden changes in kibble brands! If you decide to switch brands, transition them slowly by mixing the new kibbles with the old ones very progressively over time, while monitoring your companion's digestion.
- No cow's milk! Cats cannot digest cow's milk, so there is no need to experiment! However, a small teaspoon of plain Greek yogurt at breakfast will do no harm to your kitten's parents.

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- Prefer ceramic, earthenware, or glass bowls, as they are much healthier.
- Sometimes, stress, a change in water, or new bacteria can cause diarrhea in a young kitten when they first arrive in their new family. If your kitten continues to eat, play, and gain weight despite the diarrhea, do not worry; their digestion will stabilize over the following days.

Care and Maintenance

Shampoo

You can bathe your Siberian cat every 2 to 3 months. This helps eliminate dead hair, grease, and dust, especially during the shedding season. We recommend the Phytosoin shampoo (available at Auchan), which has proven its effectiveness with our own cats.

Brushing

The Siberian does not require any extraordinary maintenance: brushing once a week is usually enough, though some cats absolutely love the routine, so it is up to you. We prefer using combs, but brushes are just as practical, and we do not have specific preferences to impose.

- We use a classic metal comb daily.
- We recommend a de-shedding undercoat rake during the shedding season.

Litter

Your kitten is used to two types of litter: clumping litter and wood pellets... the choice is yours.

Other Care

You will also need to regularly check their ears, teeth (monitoring for tartar or gingivitis), and eyes.

Vaccinations

Your kitten leaves for your home fully vaccinated for their age. They have received two doses of the vaccine against TYPHUS and CORYZA, as well as a first dose of the LEUKEMIA (Leucose) vaccine, which must be completed with a booster in one month (only required for cats that will go outdoors). Vaccine boosters are required once a year from the date of the last vaccination.

Deworming

Let's not forget that dewormer is a poison. This is why we highly recommend PANACUR 250 (for dogs and cats), which is much gentler and more effective than others. The dosage is half a tablet up to 2.5 kg, and 1 full tablet beyond that. It is administered over 3 consecutive days, once a day (dissolved and given directly into the mouth using a small syringe).

All cats and kittens in our cattery are treated regularly against worms.

We advise you to deworm your kitten once a month until they reach 6 months of age. Afterward, do it once a year if they stay strictly indoors, and twice a year if they go outdoors.

You can purchase this dewormer online here: <https://www.pharmacy4pets.fr/panacur>

Flea and Tick Treatment

Only necessary for cats going outdoors, and preferably under your veterinarian's advice.

Toys

Siberians love to play! Do not forget to buy them some balls, feather toys, small toy mice, etc. A cat tree is absolutely essential, as scratching is a natural need for any cat.

Safety

Please remember that falling from windows (defenestration) remains the number one cause of accidental death in domestic felines. We protect our windows and balcony with a very simple-to-install net.

You can find it on Zooplus here:

https://www.zooplus.fr/shop/chats/chatieres_filets_protection_chat/filets_protection_balcon/342457?origin=hopps&q=filet&i=1&ro=2

Cat Grass

Keep it in mind, especially if you live in an apartment. Cat grass provides great health benefits for your whiskered companion.

Toxic plants list: <https://www.santevet.be/fr/articles/plante-toxique-chat>

Tip: You can even set up a small grass patch box for them (all materials can be found at Leroy Merlin).

Once at Your Home

The kitten needs to feel secure in their new home. If you have other animals, it is highly recommended to keep the kitten in a separate room at first, and introduce them to the other pets gradually, always under your supervision. If you have no other pets, there is no need to confine them; let them enjoy the full space. The adjustment period typically takes 2 to 3 days.

Transport

A large, secure transport crate is essential for any travel with your cat. Always secure it with a seatbelt when riding in a car.

Traveling with Your Cat

Accustom your companion to traveling with you from a very young age. To do this, you will need a transport carrier (hard or soft), a few puppy training pads (absorbent pads), a pack of wet wipes (just in case), a small travel litter box, and a syringe (very practical for offering water during a long journey). It is advisable to withhold food 2 to 3 hours before hitting the road.

Outdoors

The great outdoors is wonderful, but it comes with risks. Consider a harness and leash, which will allow you to take your cat on walks safely.

Pet Insurance

We strongly advise taking out pet insurance at least for the first year, which is a crucial period in a cat's life.

Estimated Annual Budget

All expenses included, the overall cost of a cat can be estimated at around €1,000 for the first year, followed by €300 to €700 per year for health and routine care for an average, middle-aged cat with no specific health issues. You can read more about it here: <https://jardinage.lemonde.fr/dossier-2512-combien-coute-chat-budget-annuel.html>