



The New Puppy & Kitten Shopping List

What you actually need before collection day — and what you really don't

PETSLIKEMINE
NEW PUPPY & KITTEN

PET NAME

COLLECTION DATE

BRINGING HOME A

Your puppy or kitten does not need a perfect home or a boot full of gadgets. It needs a safe space, a calm start and a person paying attention. Most preparation is making the house safe rather than buying more things. Here is the short, honest list of what genuinely helps before the door opens, in two columns so nothing is bolted on as an afterthought for cats.

FOR A PUPPY

- ☐ The **exact food** the breeder was using (at least the first week or two — change gradually)
- ☐ Food and water bowls
- ☐ A crate or pen for a quiet corner, with soft bedding (a den, not a cage)
- ☐ A comfy bed and a couple of chew-safe toys
- ☐ Collar, ID tag, lead and a harness (a collar and tag are the law in public)
- ☐ Puppy pads and an enzymatic cleaner for accidents
- ☐ Something safe to chew, nothing small enough to swallow
- ☐ A piece of bedding that smells of mum and littermates (ask the breeder)

FOR A KITTEN

- ☐ The **exact food** the breeder or rescue was using (change gradually)
- ☐ Food and water bowls, ideally kept apart from the tray
- ☐ A secure carrier for the journey (never travel loose)
- ☐ One litter tray per cat plus one spare; the litter type they already know
- ☐ A cosy, covered bed and at least one hiding place (a box on its side is fine)
- ☐ A scratching post
- ☐ Safe toys for gentle play
- ☐ A single calm room to start in, set up before they arrive

SAFETY FIRST: BABY-PROOF BEFORE YOU BUY MORE

Get down to their height and look around. Trailing cables, houseplants (several are toxic to cats and dogs), cleaning products, medicines and small swallowable objects all need to go up or away. A swallowed sock or a chewed charger is a genuinely common first-week emergency.

SORT THESE IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS TOO

- ☐ Book the first vet visit (health check, and the plan gets set)
- ☐ Confirm the microchip and transfer the registration into your name
- ☐ Choose pet insurance — cover is most valuable in place before any problem appears
- ☐ Note which food, worming and flea products the pet is already on

The kit is the easy part. The first three days are about safety and calm, not training. A quiet corner and a steady routine do most of the work.

Written and reviewed by Dr Alastair Greenway MRCVS and Claire Greenway BVM&S MRCVS. This sheet explains and records. It does not diagnose or prescribe. Always follow your own vet's instructions.

How to use. Gather the essentials, baby-proof at their eye level, and set up the safe space before you collect them. Buy the exact food they are already on so nothing changes at once. A wellbeing aid, not a substitute for veterinary advice.

SAFETY AND CALM FIRST — THE KIT IS THE EASY PART