

Kitten Vaccine Protocol

When it comes to vaccines, there are those we consider “core” vaccines and “lifestyle” vaccines. The core vaccines are the ones which every animal should receive (think of the MMR vaccine in humans), and the “lifestyle” vaccines are given depending on that particular cat’s lifestyle – more specifically, if the cat is indoor only or goes outside. In kittens, vaccines need to be boosted once or twice in order for that kitten’s immunity to reach adequate levels. To the right is a breakdown of the vaccine schedule for young kittens.

CORE VACCINES

- FVRCP (Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calici Virus, Panleukopenia)
- Rabies

LIFESTYLE VACCINES

- Feline Leukemia (this is an immunodeficiency virus – an example of this type of virus in humans is AIDS – in cats that can be contracted when a cat is bitten by an infected cat, or from an infected female cat to her kittens). Feline Leukemia has no cure. A large portion of feral cats in our area are infected with this virus and therefore it is highly recommended that any pet cat who goes outside without supervision should receive this vaccine.

8 weeks

- FVRCP #1

12 weeks

- FVRCP #2
- +/- Leukemia #1

16 weeks

- FVRCP (final dose)
- Rabies
- +/- Leukemia (final dose)

After this, Rabies and Leukemia are due once a year. FVRCP will be due in a year and then every 3 years.

