

# **BRIDGEWATER VETERINARY HOSPITAL**

## **NEW KITTEN PROGRAM**

### **6-8 weeks of age:**

A physical exam of the kitten is performed, the first FVRCP inoculation is given and a fecal (stool) sample is checked for internal parasites (Roundworms, Hookworms, etc.).

### **9-12 weeks of age:**

A physical exam is performed, the second FVRCP inoculation is given and a fecal sample may be rechecked if your kitten's last sample was positive. A leukemia and AIDS test is done at this time and, if negative, the first FELV inoculation may be given.

### **14-16 weeks of age:**

A physical exam is performed and the final FVRCP in the kitten series is given. The second and final FELV in the kitten series may be given, and a Rabies inoculation is administered. Each of these inoculations are effective for one year.

A maximum of 2 vaccines are given at a time to minimize risks, reactions, and poor immune system response.

### **6 months of age:**

This is the ideal time to have your female cat spayed, or your male cat neutered. The benefits far outweigh the risk of surgery. You can help your cat live a healthier, longer life.

Spaying a female eliminates the heat cycle, the possibility of pregnancy, and ends the crying and howling associated with a feline in heat. It also nearly eliminates the risk of breast tumors (almost always malignant).

Neutering a male is not cruel and it does not make a cat feel any less masculine. On the contrary, it makes him a much more desirable companion! It stops the mating drive so he will be less likely to roam or fight and it stops the marking of his territory by spraying foul smelling urine. Neutering also reduces the risk of prostate cancer and eliminates the risk of testicular tumors.

In addition to being the best for your companion's health, altering your cat also helps to control the pet over population. There are plenty of other reasons to alter your pet. If you have any questions or reservations regarding this procedure we strongly urge you to discuss them with one of our doctors or staff members!

Don't forget, to insure your cat's continued protection, a yearly visit to Bridgewater Veterinary Hospital is required and FVRCP, FELV and Rabies boosters need to be given.

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