

— FELINE LIFE STAGES —



Kitten

(Birth to 6 Months)

(AGE OF CAT) (HUMAN EQUIVALENT)

0 - 1 mo.	0 - 1 yr.
2 - 3 mos.	2 - 4 yrs.
4 mos.	6 - 8 yrs.
6 mos.	10 yrs.

It's a busy time for you and your new kitten! Many kittens can have illness that requires treatment, and then there's all the routine care too! It's time for vaccine boosters, and spaying or neutering. Kittens should be tested for FeLV and FIV viruses, have their stool examined, and be given a general dewormer to protect them and YOU from parasites. Kittens are great at getting into trouble! We can make some suggestions to help with behavior problems as well. The right food and vitamins will lead to growth and vitality.



Junior

(7 Months to 2 Years)

7 mos.	12 yrs.
12 mos.	15 yrs.
18 mos.	21 yrs.
2 yrs.	24 yrs.

Wow! You made it! You get a little break, but don't forget us completely. It's still important for us to see your cat once a year to update vaccines, check a fecal sample, deworm, and discuss any concerns you may have. If your cat goes outside unobserved it's important to check FeLV and FIV viral status yearly too! You never know who they may be hanging out with. Diet is very important, and you may have noticed your cat is putting on a little extra weight. We can discuss ways to help stop weight gain before it's too late!



Prime

(2 Years to 6 Years)

3 yrs.	28 yrs.
4 yrs.	32 yrs.
5 yrs.	36 yrs.
6 yrs.	40 yrs.

Just like with the Junior cats, we advise to see your cat once a year for a health screening, vaccines, and for an annual "weigh-in." We bet those teeth aren't quite as shiny as they used to be! It's hard to convince cats to brush daily, and dental health can play an important role towards overall health. During your visit, the doctor can determine if it's time to consider a "dental cleaning and evaluation procedure" as well as recommend ways to keep those teeth pearly-white between visits.



Mature

(7 Years to 10 Years)

7 yrs.	44 yrs.
8 yrs.	48 yrs.
9 yrs.	52 yrs.
10 yrs.	56 yrs.

It's easy to ignore an annual visit at this point, but this is when health problems can start. If we catch them early we may be able to stop or slow the problem down. Don't forget to continue preventative care, such as dental cleanings, to decrease the risk of general illness too. A common problem at this time is obesity, which can lead to diseases such as diabetes. If your cat is losing the "battle of the bulge" we can help. This is a good age to start annual "Mature Wellness Screening," such as blood work and urine evaluation to monitor for emerging illnesses. Every cat is unique, and we can make suggestions that are right for your cat.



Senior

(11 Years to 14 Years)

11 yrs.	60 yrs.
12 yrs.	64 yrs.
13 yrs.	68 yrs.
14 yrs.	72 yrs.

Uh oh, your cat is getting older! If you haven't started already, it's a good idea to schedule exams twice yearly now. We commonly diagnose arthritis, kidney and thyroid disease, as well as many other conditions, at this age. "A Senior Wellness Screening" is very important to catch these problems early! There are many diagnostic options depending on how your cat is doing. Sometimes we start with blood work, blood pressure test, and urine evaluation. We can individually tailor a treatment plan to best fit your cat.



Geriatric

(15 Years +)

15 yrs.	76 yrs.	20 yrs.	96 yrs.
16 yrs.	80 yrs.	21 yrs.	100 yrs.
17 yrs.	84 yrs.	22 yrs.	104 yrs.
18 yrs.	88 yrs.	23 yrs.	108 yrs.
19 yrs.	92 yrs.	24 yrs.	112 yrs.

The average lifespan for an indoor cat is mid-teens, so your kitty may have some wrinkles hiding under all that fur. We want to keep your cat happy and healthy as long as possible! A lot can change in a short amount of time at this age, so it is good to do an exam every 6 months to keep track of how your cat is doing. Cats are experts at hiding illness, and sometimes changes can be subtle and difficult to notice at home. General testing such as blood work, blood pressure, urine evaluation and X-rays, known as a "Geriatric Wellness Screening," help to identify problems and make the best treatment recommendations to keep your cat comfortable and content.