

# Chic Exotix

## Kitten Care Instructions

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Thank you for purchasing a Chic Exotix Bengals and WELCOME to the Family! The following are important guidelines/suggestions on taking care of your Chic Exotix Bengal kitten/cat. Of course, every kitten and cat is different, and care depends on your kitten's specific needs.

**Introduction to the home and Bonding Time.** Once you bring your Bengal home, we recommend that you keep him/her calm and comfortable until he/she becomes accustomed to the new surroundings. We recommend that you first place your kitten in a small area, such as a bathroom or a bedroom, with their food, water and litterbox, prior to taking him/her on short excursions throughout the house, until he/she becomes familiar with his/her new surroundings. He/she may cry for the first 48 hours or hide under the bed or other small, dark spaces (make sure you 'kitty-proof' the room before bringing your kitten home!). Remember, it is scary for a kitten to leave their familiar surroundings! Give him / her time to come out on their own and explore, and have fun while you start bonding by using teaser toys. Taser toys are something they're familiar with from here, and a GREAT starting fun tool as the longer handle allows them to feel comfortable and before you know it the fun of them chasing the toy starts to give way to their fear and reservation while starting to bond with you. They need to feel secure in their new home. If your Chic Exotix Bengal has traveled, please show them **extra** love and attention, hold them close and comfort them even during the travel by opening the top of the bag first and gently petting them, consoling them and reminding them that they're ok. Ultimately I become the "bad guy" for placing them in this carrier and you now become the "good guy" for "rescuing" them from this scary carrier and/or traveling. When they arrive at your home, try giving them wet kitten food and see if they will eat it – if they do not, give them time this is completely normal. While we have gotten to know this kitten here with me, and in our home around all their familiar surroundings we never truly know how each one will handle this initial process either. Some kittens want to explore the sights and smells of their new house when they first arrive, but most want to hide naturally because they're in an unfamiliar place. If you have small children, please caution them against chasing, yelling, or just grabbing at the kitten we want your children to love their new pet but young people don't understand that their a stranger. Please show them the proper way to hold the kitten; scruff, and hold firm with all paws placed with confidence against the body. Bengals enjoy climbing high but not to be

mistaken for not wanting to feel grounded. Cats in general do NOT like lack of feeling the pressure on their pads while in the air. Holding a Bengal up in the air without securing their paws is a sure way to have them freak out, and you will probably get scratched. Bengals are wonderful with small children, and they make great companions, but we need to ensure that we don't create a fear for kitten of child by having a traumatic first experience due to lack of proper process. Be **relaxed** around your new kitten because they will pick up on your nervous energy and anxiety (trust us, we've had this happen before – the more relaxed the client, the less issues with the cat!) Always try and empathize with the kitten and think about how frightened you would be if your mom, other siblings, friends, family members including smells, sounds and environment from everything you have ever known all up and changed in one short moment. We want them to be given the attention, and understanding they deserve during this very stressful time. This is the TOUGHEST part of your new Bengal journey so don't give up, get frustrated or fret if you feel like they're a bit distant at first it's not because "they don't like you" or you're doing anything wrong...so long as you're following this sheet it will all be wonderful just wait and see. Understand that each one may require different things and time not a one for all type of thing but, this process will work and will have such a beautiful lifelong reward once you've formed this bond. There's truly nothing quite like the Bengal Bond. Sometimes the "stubborn" ones are all the more rewarding in the end. As stated above we know how each one acts here, but never know how exactly how each one will act during this first transition into their new home. Just the same you're not alone, I want to help if I can so don't forget that I'm here to, if you have any questions.

Click [HERE](#) for an in-depth article about safe rooms and introductions to your home

**Litterboxes.** Our Chic Exotix Bengals are used to using a covered litter box or a tall sided litter box. Place the litterbox in the kitten's bedroom. [CHEWY.COM Litter Box](#)

**Litter.** Chic Exotix kittens use Equine Pelletized Pine Bedding, a wood-pellet litter product, which we buy in bulk from Tractor Supply. An alternative that is available at most pet stores and supermarkets is Feline Pine. You are free to use another type of litter (e.g. clay), if you wish. However we advise min 90 days and prefer 6mo any changes in this that result in negative box habits will be self induced as we are advising now against it. If you "need" to change the litter out (and are willing to take responsibility for any negative resulting) do it GRADUALLY so that your kitten will become used to the new litter. Any sudden changes in the litter may lead to 'accidents.' (IF THERE'S AN ACCIDENT) We recommend getting Kitten Attract and or their previous pine sprinkling this on top of the litter. This helps them find the box. If your kitten is still having problems contact us and we can help with suggestions for your specific circumstances.

**Once out of the initial smaller room... Do not place the litterbox in the laundry room or another floor of the house hidden and out of sight– the kitten will not find it!** The more litterboxes, the better, at least for the first month while the kitten adjusts to its new home.

**Litterbox Placement.** For kittens, the box needs within eye shot of their food. Please do not put the box in the laundry room or on another floor of the house outside of the “main level” – the kitten will most likely not find it while it is adjusting to your house! Kittens use the front entry box until they get older. We recommend the top entry boxes or automatic and or robotic litter boxes for cats that are 6 months or older.

**Our kittens are litter trained when they leave us, but we have found that, in some very rare cases, some kittens find it harder to adjust to their new homes, become confused and have accidents when they arrive at their new home. Please be patient with your kitten.** It is more traumatic for some kittens to leave the familiarity of our cattery their littermates than others. Should you be using the pine and recommended protocol ... Any repeat accidents should be made aware to me so we can troubleshoot as to why, and how to resolve promptly. Any accidents left unaddressed may and will lead to long term bad habits if not resolved asap.

**Food** We will discuss what your kitten has been eating and as such you will be asked to purchase that kind of food for the initial transition. It's always important to keep the kitten on the food they're used to while transitioning to keep your kitten thriving and healthy. Please reference the “what to expect....” Guide that was sent to you and if for some reason you did not receive this then please be sure to let me know so I can send it over promptly.

If you plan on transitioning into Raw food alternatives strictly then we recommend the following Brand: [Stella and Chewy Freeze Dried Raw](#) (check local stores for pricing). If you are planning to change you need to SLOWLY change to the new food (over the course of at minimum 2 weeks) to avoid upsetting the kittens' digestive system. Keeping your kitten on the same food and litter for min 6mo to ensure the Best all around for your new Bengal Kitten. The more consistency we can keep for them during this time the better. Seeing as though we cannot change the stress induced by their change of surroundings lets work together and at least keep their diet, litter and supplements the same.

## IF YOU CHOOSE TO RAW FEED YOUR BENGALS

There are many feeding options and its really up to you to decide what works best for you and you kitten. If you want to switch that is fine but do it slowly and gradually.

UNTIL THE KITTENS GET OLDER PLEASE STICK TO CHICKEN THIGHS **NOT** BEEF.

### This is the recipe :

6.5 lb Batch Chicken and Beef  
5 lbs of Beef Meat/chicken thighs  
5.25 oz Chicken Liver  
5.25 oz of other secreting organ( we use beef kidneys)  
11.5 ounces of chicken hearts or beef hearts  
3.5 tsp of eggshell powder

If you don't want to grind your own egg shells you can buy a powder  
This is one I found on Amazon **Click here**> [Amazon Eggshell replacement](#)

**Treats.** We suggest freeze dried raw treats as they are protein based and dont have alot of fillers. In moderation most treats are acceptable, but ANY overconsumption of any may very well lead to digestive upset. There are many available options on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.chewy.com](http://www.chewy.com) we do not recommend

**Toys.** Our Chic Exotix Bengals love toys! They love to chase balls, feathers, lures - pretty much anything that moves! Our kitties like anything with foil on them!.They also like the sisal rope [scratching posts](#) and cat trees.

**Cat Trees.** We usually buy our trees from [WWW.CHEWY.COM](http://WWW.CHEWY.COM) Bengals LOVE cat trees, and they are a must for any home with a Bengal. Go TALL over wide any day with a Bengal they live for height and challenge.

If you are looking for a unique cat tree, go to [www.furwoodforest.com](http://www.furwoodforest.com). Their cat trees are pricey but they are great conversation pieces and they are built to last!

**Scratching Post.** We have had some say the Smartcat Ultimate Scratching Post, has been found to be very stable and sturdy! Can be found from [www.Chewy.com](http://www.Chewy.com).

**Walking your Bengal outside:** MANY bengals LOVE to be outside, going on walks, climbing trees and just being one with the beautiful outdoors. Bengals and other felines are very good at getting out of harnesses and so it's very important to get one that has been reliable, strong, well made and do not forget comfortable. We HIGHLY recommend using a jacket made from Niema Bengals. You can get them through their facebook page [@Niema Cat Jackets](#) or contact Stacey Conway [AMSTAFLUV@YAHOO.COM](mailto:AMSTAFLUV@YAHOO.COM) or (413)-592-4194

**Cat Wheels.** You can find the [www.OneFastCat.com](http://www.OneFastCat.com) or the cat wheel by "[ZIGGYDOO](#)".

This wheel is very solid, and sturdy. We have seen mixed reviews on some of these but have not found any personal issues. Our feline friends LOVE running on and even taking a light stroll on their wheel which gives them a safe alternate way to keep in great physical, muscular shape and to release a lot of their energy rather than taking it out on your furniture or household items.

**Socialization, Training and Discipline.** Bengals are very smart, but they are also very active, so you need to train them early on, to prevent destructive behavior. Do not encourage your kitten to play rough or to "play bite" and this will carry on to adulthood. Never play with your hands make sure to use teasers, stuffed toys, balls etc. If you introduce the idea of them chasing or biting your hands it will continue and what was once a little nibble will hurt later on and send mixed signals to your Bengal. We want the hands to be safe things that pet, love and nourish NOT play toys to attack. If you have children, teach them not to play rough with the kitten, because when your kitten is grown up, he will play too rough. **Be firm with your kitten from the very beginning, so they know what behavior is acceptable, and what behavior is not. Reward them with treats for good behavior.**

**Our Guarantee.** Our guarantee only covers your Chic Exotix kitten. If you have a multi-cat household, and your other feline(s) comes down with health issues after your kitten arrives, we are not responsible for any veterinary expenses for your other feline(s), as we are not responsible for their health. Similarly, if your Chic Exotix kitten comes down with health issue(s) after exposure to your existing feline(s), we will be responsible only if the issues are congenital issues. You need to make sure that your existing felines are up to date on all vaccinations and have been regularly checked by your veterinarian prior to introducing them to your new kitten. This also applies to any other pets you may have in your household.

**Introduction to Pets.** (ONLY DO THIS AFTER YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY FINISHED THE INTRODUCTION/BONDING PHASE)

If you have other pets in the house, one way to introduce your Bengal to them is to place the kitten in the pet taxi (or a crate), and place the pet taxi/crate in the middle of a room with the other pets. Let everyone sniff each other, and get acquainted. There may be hissing and spitting at first, but this is normal, and shouldn't last for more than a few days. Supervised play times are also suggested, until everyone is familiar with each other. **If you have other felines in the house, you must isolate your kitten for 2 weeks min, otherwise you will void our health warranty.**

**Veterinarian visit.** Our contract requires that you take your new kitten to the vet within **3-business days**. **This is a strict requirement and you will void our health warranty if you do not follow this condition in the contract.** Please

provide proof of this to us to initiate your guarantee.

\*\*\*(DON'T FORGET to add us to the authorized list for communicating with your vet if ever we need to in regards to your Chic Exotix Bengal).

Kittens' immune systems are still developing, and sometimes, the stress of the move will lower their immunity and make them more susceptible to infections. **Your kitten has been checked by our vet prior to leaving a cattery (evidenced by a FL Health Certificate) and cleared as healthy to leave our cattery.** If your kitten has not been exposed to any other animals for 2 weeks, and your kitten starts showing signs of an infection (e.g. upper respiratory, conjunctivitis) or diarrhea, please notify us right away so we can be made aware and ensured its resolved promptly. **Our warranty is void if your kitten has been exposed to other animals during this 2-week period, because there is no way to tell how the kitten caught the infection.** If your kitten develops diarrhea most likely it's due to the stress of a new environment. We recommend using this probiotic "[NutraMax Provable](#)" and can be found on Amazon.

**Please Remember make allowances.** Although our kittens are socialized, it is still upsetting for them to be in strange surroundings. **Please give him/her time to adjust.** Adjustment could take as much as two to four weeks, before he/she is comfortable. We cannot predict how our kittens will act when they leave the familiar environment of our cattery. Also, your kitten may also have some minor upsets from the stress of moving (particularly if they flew by air or have been in a car for several hours). Some kittens may not eat and/or have a bowel movement for the first two days. At a minimum, be sure that your kitten is drinking and try and encourage your kitten to eat when she/she first arrives. But, if your kitten starts vomiting, has diarrhea (or blood in his/her stool), sneezes, has a runny nose, acts lethargic or has no appetite, please take your kitten to the vet immediately. **Please contact us immediately if you have concerns.** We cannot help you if we do not know about the issue. We want to be kept up to date on our kittens' health and well-being. By letting us know about the issue, you can also help us improve our health protocols and our breeding program. We may not be able to help you if you wait a week, two weeks, etc. before telling us that your kitten has had health or behavior issues. It's better to tell us right away so that we can help figure out a solution.

This about wraps it up. Now on to start your New Bengal Journey and again Welcome to the Chic Exotix Family. Let the Bengal shenanigans Begin!

