

Weaning stages

	Day 1-7	1-2 w.	2-3 w.	3-4 w.	4-5 w.	5-6 w.	6-7 w.	7-8 w.	8 w. +
Offer a source of warmth	Green				Light Green		Yellow	Grey	
Feed milk	Green				Light Green		Yellow		Grey
Offer canned food	Grey			Yellow	Light Green		Green		
Offer kibble (can be moistened with milk or water)	Grey				Yellow	Light Green	Green		
Begin socialization (positive handling, play)	Grey				Yellow	Light Green		Green	
Daily weighing	Green				Grey				
Weighing every 2-3 days	Grey				Green			Grey	
Weekly weighing	Grey							Green	
Stimulation when needed (integrate litter box from 3 weeks)	Green			Light Green	Yellow	Grey			

Golden rules for taking good care of an orphan kitten

A kitten should gain **between 10 and 30 grams of weight per day**. If he is not taking any or is losing any, increase the number of meals per day or the quantity of food per meal. If he has no appetite, add a meal. If he is gluttonous, you can slightly increase the quantity in ml of meals.

Purchasing a small kitchen scale is strongly recommended to monitor your kitten's growth!



As a heat source: a hot water bottle covered with a blanket or a heating bag (which can be put in the microwave) does the trick.

DO NOT USE electrical appliances to avoid burns and always provide a warm place and a cool place in the nest.

A kitten should always be fed in a prone position (belly towards the ground), NEVER ON THE BACK.

Once the milk or canned/milk mixture is made, it will keep for 24 hours in the refrigerator. Always warm the mixture (in hot water or in the microwave) before feeding the kitten and test the temperature on the wrist, as you would with a child. Heat one individual serving at a time.



It is important to **clean the kitten well** after feeding if it has cane/milk in its face. It also often happens that kittens have dirty rear ends; if this is the case, you can bathe him in lukewarm water to clean him (use a kitten shampoo if necessary). **Make sure to dry it well afterward to avoid hypothermia.** Paper litter is less messy than clumping litter.



When your kitten starts to play, be careful not to encourage games with the hands and to offer him safe toys (**strings and elastics should be avoided!**) Your kitten does not know heights or depths well, be careful of places where he could climb and fall!

Restrict the kitten's territory to a small cage from 0 to 3 weeks, a medium cage from 4 to 6 weeks and a safe room from 7 to 10 weeks. Insulation is important to ensure that the kitten eats well, continues to gain weight and does not poop anywhere other than its litter box.

From 6 weeks old, your kitten could eat enough on its own! Supplement the kitten as needed until it gains enough weight daily on its own, without needing to feed it. At this point, you can stop supplementing it.

Your kitten will be ready to find its forever family at around 8 weeks old. If you decide to adopt him in the meantime, make an appointment with your veterinarian as soon as possible for him to receive an antiparasitic from the age of 4 weeks and his first vaccines around the age of 8 weeks. It can then be gradually integrated into the other animals in your home to continue its socialization!



How to mix the milk



1. Measure 1 level scoop of milk replacer and mix with 2 scoops (30mL) of hot (60°C) water.
2. Mix thoroughly for 30 seconds or until well incorporated using a good whisk.
3. Allow milk replacer to cool slightly, feeding at body temperature (38-40°C). To mix total daily amount, keep refrigerated for up to 24 hours in clean sealed container. Reheat by warm water bath.

How much to feed your kitten

Increase amounts gradually over the weeks. Adjust the amounts with the size of the kitten.

Age	Weight	Quantity per meal	Daily amount
< 1 week/week 1	100g	3 ml	30 ml
week/weeks 2	175g	5 ml	50 ml
weeks/weeks 3	250g	8-10 ml	70 ml
weeks/weeks 4	325g	10-12 ml	90 ml
weeks/weeks	400g	12-16 ml	115 ml
5 weeks/weeks	475g	16-20 ml	135 ml

Visit <https://www.grobernutrition.com/pets/product/kitten-gro/> for more information on kitten's nutritional needs and basic needs.

Educative content and Youtube tutorial

<http://www.kittenlady.org>

Caring for an orphaned kitten

