



Is Fostering For You?

Fostering kittens saves lives. Every year, shelters and rescues are overwhelmed during kitten season, and foster homes provide the safe, supportive environment vulnerable kittens need to grow and thrive.

Kittens may enter foster care for many reasons:

- orphaned or abandoned litters
- neonatal kittens needing bottle feeding
- pregnant or nursing moms
- sick or underweight kittens needing extra monitoring
- shy kittens needing socialization before adoption

Fostering gives kittens a chance to develop in a home environment where they receive individual care, attention, and enrichment. Foster caregivers help kittens learn important social skills through gentle handling, play, exposure to household sounds, and positive interactions with people.

For very young kittens, foster care may include around-the-clock feeding, incubator support, weight checks, and careful monitoring of hydration and development. Older kittens benefit from structured play, climbing opportunities, and experiences that build confidence and prepare them for future homes.

If you are considering fostering, there are several important things to think about:

- Do you have a safe, easy-to-clean space?
- Are you able to quarantine foster kittens from your own animals if needed?
- Do you have experience with cats/kittens, or are you willing to learn?
- Are your own pets up to date on vaccinations?
- Does your schedule allow the time and consistency kittens require each day?
- Are you able to closely monitor kittens daily and provide regular updates to the rescue?

The goal of fostering is to help kittens grow up healthy, confident, and ready for permanent homes. Saying goodbye can be difficult, but it also means you succeeded and created space to help the next vulnerable kitten in need.

Rescues often provide supplies, medical care, and guidance, while foster families provide the daily care and love that help kittens thrive. Some fosters care for kittens for only a few weeks, while others specialize in medical or neonatal cases.

One foster home can make a tremendous difference. By opening your home temporarily, you help free up shelter space, support rescue efforts, and give vulnerable kittens the chance at a healthy future.