

It Doesn't Happen Over Night

The 3/3/3/ rule is a general guideline for the adjustment period of a pet after adoption.

Every pet is unique and will adjust differently. Please have patience and allow your new pet time to settle in.

3 Days

To Decompress

- Feeling overwhelmed
- May feel scared or unsure of what's going on
- Not yet comfortable to be "himself"
- May not want to eat or drink
- Shuts down and/or hides under furniture
- Tests the boundaries

3 Weeks

To Learn Your Routine

- Starts settling in
- Feels more comfortable.
- Realizes this could be his forever home
- Figures out his environment.
- Gets into a routine.
- Lets his guard down; beginning to show his true personality

3 Months

To Start to Feel at Home

- Finally feels completely comfortable in his home
- Begins to build trust and a true bond
- Gains a complete sense of security with his new family
- Sets into a routine

Welcoming a Kitten Home: The First Two Weeks

Bringing home your new Bengal kitten is an exciting adventure filled with joy, laughter, and a few heartwarming surprises. However, it's also essential to ensure a smooth transition for your furry friend. One of the most crucial steps in this journey is the initial two-week quarantine period. Don't worry; it's not as daunting as it sounds! Let's dive into why this period of welcoming a kitten home is essential for both you and your Bengal kitten.

Getting Acquainted with a New World:

Imagine stepping into a whole new world, surrounded by unfamiliar sights, sounds, and smells. It can be overwhelming, right? Your Bengal kitten feels the same way when they arrive at their new home. The two-week quarantine period allows them to adjust gradually. During this time, your little one will get used to the scent of their new surroundings, the sound of footsteps, appliances like the washer and dryer, and even the echoes of people talking and laughing. These everyday noises can be intimidating for a tiny kitten, so a slower introduction helps ease their anxiety.

Bonding with Your Bengal Kitten:

The quarantine period is not just about your Bengal kitten adapting to their environment—it's also about forging a strong bond with them. As they observe you from their cozy quarantine space, they'll begin to understand that you are their source of love, play, food, and comfort. This is the foundation for a lifelong connection filled with trust and affection.

Furry Footsies and Scent Sharing:

If you have other pets at home, the quarantine period allows your Bengal kitten and your existing furry family members to get to know each other safely. They'll play "footsies" under the door, exchanging curious sniffs and learning about one another's scents. This gradual introduction makes the eventual face-to-face meeting less intimidating, reducing stress for everyone involved.

Protecting the Health of All:

Besides emotional bonding, the quarantine period serves another critical purpose. It prevents the spread of potential illnesses. The stress of leaving their previous home, mom, and siblings can weaken a kitten's immune system, making them susceptible to illness. Quarantining your Bengal kitten helps ensure that any latent illness they might carry won't infect other animals in the house. This is crucial for both their safety and the health of your existing pets. In the same vein, existing pets in your household might also experience stress when a new, furry family member is introduced. This stress can trigger latent illnesses that may not have shown symptoms before. Again, quarantine protects everyone by providing a buffer for these potential health issues.

Creating the Perfect Quarantine Space:

Now that you understand the importance of the two-week quarantine period for your Bengal kitten, let's talk about creating the perfect quarantine space. This space should be cozy, and secure, and help your new furry friend feel safe as they adjust to their new home.

The Ideal Quarantine Room:

Your quarantine room should be a smaller, enclosed space where your Bengal kitten can't easily hide from you. Bathrooms and laundry rooms often make excellent quarantine areas because they are typically small, easy to clean, and can be secured effectively.

Safety First:

Remember, your Bengal kitten will likely be scared during their first days in a new environment. Their instinct may be to find a safe hiding spot. By choosing a smaller room, you limit their options, making it easier for you to monitor and comfort them.

Preparing the Space:

Here are some tips for preparing your quarantine room:

Clear the Space: Remove any hazards or items that could harm your kitten. Check for small objects they might swallow and remove toxic plants or chemicals.

Comfort is Key: Provide a cozy bed or blanket, a litter box, fresh water, and high-quality kitten food. Ensure these essentials are easily accessible.

Toys and Entertainment: Offer some toys and interactive play to keep your Bengal kitten mentally stimulated and entertained.

A Safe Space to Observe: Set up a comfortable chair or cushion where you can sit quietly and observe your kitten. Bring a book or your laptop to pass the time as you let them acclimate to their new surroundings.

Socialization Time: Spend time with your kitten in their quarantine room. Speak softly, offer treats, and let them come to you at their own pace. Patience is key during this adjustment period.

Gradual Freedom:

As the two weeks progress, you'll notice your Bengal kitten becoming more comfortable and less fearful. Once the quarantine period is over, you can gradually introduce them to the rest of your home, allowing them to explore and adapt at their own pace.

By creating the ideal quarantine space and providing love, patience, and gentle socialization, you'll help your Bengal kitten feel secure and confident in their new home. The quarantine period may seem like a waiting game, but it's a crucial step in building a strong foundation for a lifetime of happiness.