

## Deeze Sphynx new kitten instructions



(excuse the male pronoun if your new kit is a girl!)

They look MUCH bigger in photos than they are in real life. They are usually around 3 pounds when they go home at 12 weeks. Almost every family says when they pick them at 12 weeks: “he is SO small”

# Sphynx Kitten Homecoming Guide

## 1. Feeding & Nutrition

- **Current Diet:** **Royal Canin Kitten kibble** available at all times and a **balanced raw chicken recipe** (80-10-10) fed 3-4 times a day.
- **Hydration Hack:** Always mix extra water into wet or raw food. If your kitten isn't eating, adding water often encourages them to start.
- **Safe Food Transitions:** Never change food abruptly. Mix new food slowly over several days to avoid diarrhea. Continue the Royal Canin Kitten kibble (available at all times) and add whatever KITTEN wet food you plan on feeding them slowly, in a separate bowl several times a day. They should be on Kitten kibble and kitten wet food until at least a year and then can transition to adult food &/or raw diet.
- **Tummy Care:** Keep **Canned Pumpkin** (unsweetened) and **FortiFlora** or **Bene-bac probiotics** on hand for loose stools or appetite loss.

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## 2. Hygiene & Grooming

- **Bathing:** Try for a full bath monthly with ear cleaning and nails weekly. Add in more frequent baths if needed. For bathing use warm water (around **102°F**). Use **Douxo S3 Calm** shampoo and an exfoliating glove. Avoid running the tap while the kitten is in the water to prevent scaring them.
- **Ear Cleaning:** Use **Epi-otic** ear cleaner. Warm the bottle in the bathwater first. Apply, massage the base of the ear, let them shake, and then clean crevices with a Q-tip (staying out of the ear canal).
- **Nails:** Use guillotine-style clippers. Clean the nail beds after a bath using a washcloth or a cotton swab with a little rubbing alcohol.
- Stay away from plastic food/water bowls to minimize chin acne.

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### 3. Home Setup

- **Litter Boxes:** They are used to clay-based **clumping litter** (Petco SoPhresh or Sam's Club brands). A **top-entry box** (like CleverCat) is best for keeping litter contained, but some prefer open boxes. Rule of thumb: **1 box per cat + 1 extra**.
  - **Warmth:** Provide plenty of blankets or a covered bed with a **low-heat heating pad** (no auto-shutoff). If you can't find your kitten, check for a "lump" under the blankets on your bed!
  - **Clothing:** Some kittens find clothes calming; others "shut down." Use them as needed for warmth, but ensure the kitten is comfortable.
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### 4. Trupanion Insurance

- **Insurance:** With the cost of vet care these days I believe strongly in the value of pet insurance—especially during those first few weeks when your kitten is settling into their new home. I have used Trupanion's Breeder program for years and am able to offer 30 days of complimentary medical coverage with no waiting period as part of your kitten's transition from my care to yours.
    - While activating this is entirely optional, I highly encourage all my families to take advantage of it. It offers real peace of mind during a time when kittens are most prone to unexpected health concerns.
    - Because kittens are significantly more likely to face unexpected vet visits in their first year, I also recommend keeping your medical coverage in place for at least the first 12 months.
    - Link to activation letter...  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BJieQfaiNQhWWeEuGqV3PGDphrsTEWjq/view?usp=drivesdk>
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### 5. Medical

- **Insurance:** (Again! 😊) Activate the Trupanion Insurance a day or two before pickup even if you will not continue it after the first free month, or plan to switch to a different policy. Better safe than sorry.
- **Vaccines:** Booster & Rabies needed at 16 weeks. Ask the vet to use the legs for vaccines to avoid the possibility of vaccine sarcomas.
- **Surgery & Anesthesia:** \* **Ketamine:** Spay/Neuter needed between 6-8 months. Many Sphynx are hypersensitive to Ketamine. Ask your vet to use an alternative anesthetic protocol.
  - **Warmth:** Sphynx lose body heat rapidly under sedation. Ensure the vet uses heating pads during surgery and the "waking up" phase.
- **Ear Mites:** Sphynx normally produce heavy dark wax that can collect in ears and nail beds. **Do not** treat for mites unless a vet confirms them via a microscope slide. Make the vet check if they suspect mites. I've had two vets say mites, I said ear wax, both times vet checked and I was correct!
- **Eyes:** Brownish/red eye goo is normal for sphynx since they have no eyelashes. Some need a simple eye wipe daily.

- **Teeth:** Try to get them used to routine teeth cleaning early.

## Supplies Checklist

- **Food:** Royal Canin Kitten / Plus another KITTEN wet food to transition to.
- **Grooming:** Douxo S3 Shampoo, Epi-otic Ear Cleaner, Guillotine Clippers, Toothbrush & cleaner.
- **Pharmacy:** Canned Pumpkin, FortiFlora/Bene-bac.
- **Bedding:** Heating pad (low heat/no shutoff), covered cat bed, blankets.



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