



With the goal that every Victorian cat has every opportunity to be happy, healthy and feel safe and loved in the year ahead, our team at The Cat Protection Society of Victoria have put together this "New Year Cat Checklist" to kick start 2024 in the most feline friendly way possible. Please remember this advice is general in nature and as always, if you do have any specific concerns or questions with regards to your cat's behaviour, diet or health, we recommend you contact your Vet.

Is your cat microchipped?

Microchipping your cat is not only a legal requirement (for cats within Victoria) but it will also greatly improve the chances of your cat being reunited with you should they become lost. A microchip is a very small chip that is implanted under the skin of a cat by a Vet.

Are your microchip details up to date?

If you have recently moved address or updated your phone number, it is important you update your contact information on the Microchip database to again ensure that if your cat becomes lost, your local Vet, Animal Shelter or Council can contact you. **To view the microchip database for your cat, visit www.petaddress.com.au**

Is your cat desexed?

Apart from preventing accidental litters, there are an incredible number of health and behavioural benefits to having your cat desexed. Research also suggests that neutered male cats live twice as long as sexually active males, mainly due to the massive reduction in vicious fights during mating seasons, while neutered female cats live 62% longer than non-neutered females.

When did you last see the Vet?

The new year is a great time to book in an annual consult with your local Vet to discuss any health or behavioural concerns you may have or simply for a quick health check to ensure your cat has every opportunity to be their healthiest, happiest self.

Is your cat due for their Vaccinations?

Did you know that your cat should have an annual vaccination to help protect them from the three most common feline viruses? If it has been more than 18 months since your cat's last vaccination, they will require a vaccination and a booster one month apart.

Travelling in 2024?

If you and your family have travel plans that don't involve your 4-legged, furry feline family member, you may like to consider booking in a stay at a Cattery keeping in mind that Catteries traditionally book out well in advance (especially during holiday periods). Your cat will also need to be up-to date with their vaccinations before any Cattery stay.

Is your cat 6 years or older?

Diseases of the teeth and gums are common in cats and these issues become more prevalent in cats older than 6 years of age. If you do

have any concerns with regards to your cat's oral health, you may like to book in a dental at your local Vet. You can also start your cat on a product like Greenies Dental treats which help reduce tartar build-up, clean teeth, and freshen breath. You can learn more about Greenies via their website at: www.greenies.com.au/products/for-cats and pick up Greenies at our Cat Protection Society Retail Store.

Is your cat protected from fleas and worms?

You can purchase a single monthly spot-on treatment that will protect your cat from fleas, heartworm, intestinal worms and other nasty parasites. We recommend the Advocate range which is available for purchase at our Cat Protection Society Retail Store and most Vet Clinic and Pet Care Stores.

Worried your cat may become anxious when the new school and work year kicks in?

You may like to consider purchasing a Feliway Diffuser to help comfort your cat at home and reduce signs of stress which may include scratching, hiding and urine spraying. You can learn more about the Feliway products via their website at: www.feliway.com/au

Do your cats' toys, bedding and containers need a clean?

A happy cat is a healthy cat. Use the new year to replace your cats' toys and food containers and give their bedding a hot wash. Not only will this help keep your cat entertained and enriched, but it will also minimise the chance of your cat becoming unwell from any nasties that may have grown in their toys, containers, or bedding.

Is it time to review your cats diet?

Is your new year goal to eat a healthier, more nutrient rich diet? This should apply for your cat/s too. To provide your cat with the opportunity to be their healthiest self, it is important to feed your cat a premium cat food that is tailored for their age, lifestyle, and health. We recommend the Royal Canin and Hills range. If in doubt about the best food for your cat, chat with your Vet.

Love further information or have a specific question or concern?

Please contact the team at The Cat Protection Society of Victoria (Shelter and Retail Store 03 8457 6500 or Vet Clinic 03 8457 6504) or Local Vet.

Wishing you and your cat/s a paw some 2024.

