



### Adoption Process

If you are interested in adopting a Death Valley Maine Coon Kitten, please visit our [website](#) and select a kitten from the Available Kittens page.

To reserve a kitten, complete the [Reserve](#) form and send your request to:

[DVMaineCoons@gmail.com](mailto:DVMaineCoons@gmail.com)

A non-refundable \$500 deposit is required to hold a Kitten. Prices vary depending on sex and coloring.

The remaining balance is due in cash when the kitten is picked up. All expenses related to Kitten transportation are made in advance of pick up and are the responsibility of the Buyer.

Please make sure your complete, sign, and return the Maine Coon Kitten Purchase Contract without Breeding Rights with your deposit.



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## Be Selective When Selecting Your Veterinarian

It is essential to use a veterinarian that is familiar with the Maine Coon breed. Some Maine Coon kittens will experience juvenile gingivitis while teething. This breed loses all baby teeth. It takes about 6 months for the adult teeth to grow in. It varies from kitten to kitten on how much swelling of the gums they experience during this process, which occurs from 5 months to a year of age. Many Vets misdiagnose this as stomates or other mouth diseases and recommend pulling teeth. **Do Not let them pull any teeth.** Always get a second opinion.

Also, in rare cases Maine Coon kittens have an enzyme in their mouth that makes the gums try to grow over the teeth as the body is rejecting the teeth. **Do Not pull any teeth.** The proper treatment is giving the kitten Prednisone for inflammation for several weeks. In severe cases, surgery is required to remove some of the excess growth. Then give prednisone and an antibiotic. Surprisingly, the excess growth normally does not grow back. It is very unlikely that a Maine Coon kitten or young adult cat will have any kind of permanent mouth diseases that would require pulling teeth.

Remember, Maine Coon Cats grow until 4 years of age, so they are just a big kitten at 1 year old. Everything about Maine Coon Cats is large compared to other cat breeds. Head, feet, bones, internal organs such as heart and loud Heartbeat.

Vets unfamiliar with the Maine Coon breed will misdiagnose murmurs. Some kittens will experience a juvenile murmur as the kittens grow extremely fast. If they have a murmur at all, they usually outgrow it within 6 months. A murmur is an entirely different issue from HCM which is enlargement of the heart and can be fatal. Normally, Maine Coon kittens do not just suddenly develop a murmur. If they do not have a murmur at 3 months of age it is extremely unlikely, they will develop one, especially during the first year of growth. If your kitten is diagnosed with a murmur, get a second opinion, or find a Vet familiar with this breed.

Please note that during times of stress (like going to a new home and leaving everything they ever knew) the kitten may show temporary, minor signs of illness which may include: sneezing, runny nose, watery eyes, diarrhea, or constipation. To reduce stress please keep them on the same food and slowly transition (if needed) and take reasonable measures to reduce stress. The Health Guarantee does not cover minor stress related health illness.

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A Nevada Cattery

## Kitten Transition

The kittens may get mild diarrhea, sniffles, or watery eyes and nose the first week or so. This is a BIG transition for them, and these symptoms will most likely be stress related. Do not worry... cats also get sick like us. Please keep me updated if any of this is to appear. I have lots of natural options to aid and ease symptoms, and, of course, refer to a vet for any serious concerns.

There are cat pheromone diffusers that emit a calm and safe pheromone to help them. I have not personally used them but hear they actually help tremendously. This might be good to have on hand and located in the room they will be staying.

Please spend as much time as possible with your kittens these first few weeks of having them. They will love to play and then settle down in your lap for a restful nap. They may be a little nervous at first... give it a few days. They will need all the distraction and bonding to transition to their new smells, new voices, new surroundings, new companion animals (if any) and new life.

## Spaying/Neutering

Just a reminder... females will need to be spayed between 6-9 months and males between 10-12 months, any earlier is not vital. For health purposes it is best to allow them to reach sexual maturity before fixing. Please send me the spay/neuter certificate post-op so I can add it to my files. I will be following up around those timeframes to ensure this is being done. Spaying/ Neutering your kitten is NOT optional.



## Your Healthy Kitten

**FOOD:** Just by way of reminder... please have Blue Wilderness Kitten food and wet food on hand. If you decide to switch, it will need to be a gradual week-long transition; not before 2 weeks of settling in.

\*Please continue giving your kitten 1/2 of a can of wet food (mixed with a small amount of warm water for hydration) in the morning and evening. If at any point you want to add in raw meat this is a good time to do it.

The younger the better as their gut biome is developing and will thrive with raw. I will include a Raw Food for Dummies recipe in your folder.

Cats are obligate carnivores (unlike dogs) and really should be eating a strictly meat diet. ALL kibble has a carbohydrate binder and it not optimal for your kitty. If you get brave and want to steer that direction, I would love to help you! It can be very simple and cost effective and can provide the absolute gold standard diet for your Maine Coon.

You can always do both as well. Lots of options for various lifestyles. Also start including chicken wings 2-3 times a week. I pre-portion in baggies/freezer and thaw out what I need that day. Kittens may do better chewing chicken wings "tips", but you can separate at the joint of a regular chicken wing, and they should do ok. Remember... this is absolutely necessary for oral health and to prevent juvenile gingivitis as they lose their entire set of baby teeth. They are made to gnaw and crunch bones in their diet.



## Be Selective When Selecting Your Vet

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Lastly, this breed is a large boned animal and can easily carry 20+ pounds. Males are not overweight if over 20 pounds. All MC Cats have a stomach sack like a Lion or Tiger. The stomach sack does not mean they are overweight. It is normal for the breed. Death Valley Maine Coon Cattery is an informational resource for you. Please contact us prior to spending funds on questionable pet medical diagnosis. When in doubt, always get a second medical opinion.



### Contact Information

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