How to determine the age of newborn kittens





Kittens weigh approximately 90-100 grams (3-3½ ounces) at birth. Their eyes are completely closed and the umbilical cord is still attached. They cannot stand on their own and cannot regulate their own temperature.

3-7 days old

Eyes completely closed, ears folded down, cannot stand, no teeth and umbilical cord has fallen off



7–10 days old

Eyes mostly closed or beginning to open, no umbilical cord attached, ears folded down, cannot stand and cannot regulate their own temperature



10–14 davs old

Eyes open and bright blue in color but vision is still blurry, ears starting to unfold, no teeth, cannot regulate their own temperature



2 weeks old

Eyes completely open and blue in color, no umbilical cord, rounded ear shape, no teeth, attempting to stand, may try hissing, cannot regulate their own temperature



3 weeks old

Eyes completely open and blue in color, ears becoming erect, small incisors beginning to break through the gums, more aware of their surroundings, able to stand, walk and play

4 weeks old

Eyes completely open and blue in color, pointed ear shape, canine teeth starting to appear, could start to eat some wet food, ideally should weigh one pound, starting to spend less time with mom, can regulate their own temperature, able to walk, run and play



5 weeks old

Eyes completely open and starting to change color, pointed ear shape, lower premolar teeth have emerged, eating wet food, able to walk, run and play

6 weeks old



Eyes completely open and color is changing, pointed ear shape, eating wet food and dry kibble (but could still try to nurse), grooming themselves, able to walk, run and play and becoming more agile





Eyes completely open and adult eye color is setting in, pointed ear shape, upper premolars have emerged, eating wet food and dry kibble, ideally should weigh two pounds, able to walk, run and play and acting like an adult

Together, we can Save Them All.

Many homeless dogs and cats live in animal shelters as they patiently wait for new loving families. Although kind people work and volunteer at these facilities, shelters can still be noisy and scary places for the animals. Best Friends is working hard to change that, and with your help, we will Save Them All.

To check out our community lifesaving dashboard, and for more information, visit bestfriends.org.

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