



Ragamuffins

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The Ragamuffin

Introduction

Ragamuffins can be a good addition to your family. These beautiful animals are affectionate, loving, and crave attention. It is important to make an informed pet selection and equally as important to make informed decisions throughout the life of your pet. We will take you through the process of bringing home your new family member and lead you all the way to cherishing your memories of the long life you share together. We will provide you with an outstanding number of tips and helpful advice including certified veterinary tips. This complimentary book is packed full of information to fulfill your cat parenting needs. You will be given access to checklists and handy vet tips to ensure you are taking proper care of your loved animal and we will even provide you with beautiful pictures of these lovely well-mannered cats. Take a few moments to enjoy this information and you will spend many years enjoying a loving relationship with your Ragamuffin.

General Ragamuffin Characteristics

Ragamuffins are curious, loving, loyal, and have a tendency to go limp when carried and stroked. They have excellent social skills and interact nicely with children. Many happy memories are created with a Ragamuffin by your side or on your lap. Their beautiful coats can be one of many colors, but the feature that sets them apart is the rabbit-like texture of their long hair. This happy breed will thrive in an inside environment, and should probably be an indoor cat since it has been bred to be docile and very friendly. Ragamuffins have a tendency to follow their people from room to room so that they do not miss anything. They may also meet you at the door, when you arrive home in the evening. If they are to be a show cat, they need to be handled and exposed to a certain amount of noise while they are kittens. This is a steadfast and loving breed and they tend to have a life expectancy that is suitable for a family pet. Proper diet, exercise, grooming and veterinary attention will benefit you and your Ragamuffin.

Average Weight	10-20 pounds	Temperament	Gentle, almost dog-like, affectionate and loving
Average Height	Large build, can be heavy	Good with Children?	Yes, very good with children
Coat	Soft, medium to long, full coat, rabbit-like texture	Health Concerns	No known genetic disorders or illnesses



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Selecting Your Ragamuffin Kitten – Adoption or a Breeder?

It can be a matter of personal preference to adopt or rescue a Ragamuffin. Another personal choice might be to select your Ragamuffin from a reputable breeder.

A few words about adoption

Look for a pet adoption shelter or rescue center in your community. Use your community resources, such as your library, newspaper, and any online information to understand the reputation of the shelter before you go there. Ask questions at the center and of other people who may have used their services before. Find out as much as you can about the history of the pets you are considering. Know that some pets are up for adoption because they have been left behind due to divorce or families having to relocate. Not all pets in shelters or rescue centers come from abused or neglectful situations. Pet adoption or rescue is less expensive than purchasing from a cat breeder. For families who face economical challenges this option is worth considering. You have the satisfaction of providing a home for a deserving pet.

A few words about breeders

Perhaps you prefer a Ragamuffin that comes from a reputable breeder in order to raise your pet as a show cat or breed your pet to further the advancement of new Ragamuffins in your community. Breeders are very knowledgeable about the breed's overall health and characteristics. You can find cat breeders by looking in the newspaper, searching on the internet, or checking with the local vet. Make sure the breeder is associated with a national association such as the CFA (Cat Fanciers Association). Cat breeders can be very particular about the person wanting to purchase the cat. They may want to know what other animals are in the home or if there are any children living in the home. Many breeders may ask you to sign a contract stating that you will keep the cat as an indoor pet. Make sure the breeder's facilities are clean and always ask to see the mother and father of the kitten you want to buy. The breeder should be able to provide a written health guarantee and all shot records. Ragamuffins are a newer breed, only recognized in 2003 by the Cat Fancier's Association as a breed.

Either option is viable based on your own knowledge, expectations, and personal conviction. The most important thing to remember when selecting your pet is to select the pet right for you. Pet ownership is a big responsibility. Select a pet that fits your lifestyle.

How To Choose Your New Ragamuffin Kitten

Choosing a cat can be a difficult decision because there are many different personalities and aesthetic qualities you may want to look for. Do you prefer to have the runt of the litter or the huskiest brute?



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You'll need these basics before your Ragamuffin comes home. Click the items below to go to CheapPetStore.com to find the best prices for online pet supplies.

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Ragamuffins can be almost any color and have many pattern combinations. Sometimes you can make a decision based on the adorable facial expressions a kitten makes. Can you resist those sweet kitten eyes that pierce right through to clench hold of your heart? Pet adoptions or rescues are viable options for selecting your Ragamuffin. Of course, finding a good breeder is always a good option too. Make sure you look for the following signs of a healthy cat:

- Bright and clear eyes
- Clean ears that are free of parasites
- Healthy coat and skin conditions
- History and lineage are necessary as the genetics of animals are much like that of humans
- Make sure paw pads are soft and well taken care of
- Plump bellies are common in healthy kittens, but be sure they're not too plump
- Tails and facial expressions can give strong clues about the kitten's personality and disposition

Before You Bring Your Ragamuffin Home

It is important to kitten proof your home and be as prepared as possible to provide a safe and secure environment for your new friend. In an effort to prepare for the care of your new best friend you should create a checklist and learn about the special needs of your pet. Make sure that your floors are free of clutter. You will want to have a scratching post for your new kitten to sharpen its claws on. Otherwise, your new baby may use your couch as its scratching post.

Create a list of items that you need for your new pet. You will need the essentials to care for your pet such as, a good kitten food, a brush for grooming, toys for playtime, and a litter box with a good quality kitty litter in it. You will also want to have a selection of toys and training items. The reward system is great for teaching your pet important lessons. Some toys double as treat holders so that when playing games with your pet they have a fun way to get to their reward. Your kitten will soon discover what you want from him if you use a loving manner to convey your messages. Ragamuffins are eager to please and respond well to positive reinforcement. Ragamuffins are also very good family pets, and are calm and patient with children.

It is really important to start your kitten with a good health regimen. Keep accurate health and immunization records throughout the life of your pet. This will make it much easier for you to maintain proper health standards for your animal. Be sure to introduce him early to his vet and his grooming process. These are good practices for new owners as well as the kittens. Of equal importance is a healthy diet for your pet. It is a good idea to follow your breeder or vet's guidelines for all of your pet's nutrition needs. Kitten food has different nutrients than adult or senior foods. Allergy sensitive animals require special dietary ingredients as well.



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Your Ragamuffin Through the Years

Your Ragamuffin Kitten

Each stage of your pet's life will be characterized by special needs. Kittens' lives are full of learning experiences. Enjoy the time you spend with your kitten. Use feathers, strings, or balls to keep your kitten active and know that you can use these toys not only to play but also to train your pet. Kittens learn quickly and can develop bad habits if they are not properly stimulated. Conversely, they can learn good habits if trained lovingly and early on.

Healthy habits are established at this stage of life as well. Vaccinations, dietary standards, and proper grooming regimens are very important for kitten. Your Ragamuffin should have its own clean bowls for food and water. Sometimes it is helpful to place the bowls on a non-slip surface. There are many decorative bowls and placemats available to make your pets feeding time special for him. Take extra time to get your kitten used to regular grooming. Overall, cats are good at grooming themselves. Most cats will also enjoy the attention you give them with a soft brush. Ragamuffins have a longish coat but it does not tend to mat. Occasionally you may need to trim their nails or give them a bath, especially if they develop a skin problem or have fleas. There are also toothbrushes and toothpastes specifically for cats. Some types of toothpaste are even meat or fish flavored! When you introduce a new grooming device to your kitten it is important to remember to let the kitten become acquainted with the item before using it. Remember to put the item away when you are no longer using it or the kitten might mistake it for a toy.

Your Adult Ragamuffin

As your cat begins to age, his needs begin to change. Keep surprises to a minimum by, yep you guessed it, being prepared. Keep your cat active and healthy. Change out his toys often to keep his interest. Sometimes adult cats develop allergies. If you notice changes in the skin, or fur you may need to change their diet. If your pet develops allergies you will see changes in his coat, skin, eyes or ears. If you suspect your cat has allergies, the best thing to do is take your cat to the vet. There are excellent remedies that will become an important part of your cat's routine.

As your cat ages his nails, paw pads, coat, skin, eyes and ears need special attention. Make grooming a happy time for your cat. You should keep the coat clean and free of dander, fleas, and tangled or matted hair. Also keep nails trimmed, check the pads on their paws frequently for spurs, and keep tooth tartar under control. Keep up with all of your adult pet's needs by frequently checking supplies and making sure that you have the most efficient tools handy to keep your cat in good health.



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Your Senior Ragamuffin

When your pet climbs the hill into his senior years his needs will change again. Dietary changes are the most prevalent at this life stage. As your cat ages, so does his digestive system. Make sure your senior Ragamuffin maintains a proper diet and receives proper nutrients by starting him on a daily vitamin. Keep abreast of the latest trends in dental products. There are many tartar control products on the market today. There are bones, toys, and toothbrushes essential to an older cats' health and happiness. Just remember that cats age in some of the same ways that humans do. You can help them manage aches and pains with the proper pet healthcare aids, knowledge, and care.

Senior pets have many changes in disposition and could easily be stressed by active young children. They may show signs of irritability when eating or when encouraged to do something they would rather not do. Ragamuffins are genuinely loving animals and are not known to cause harm but grumpy seniors have a way of making sure that you are aware when they are unhappy. It is important to know that senior animals tend to do things their own way and in their own time. Care for your senior in a loving, gentle manner mixed with a little patience and understanding.

Make happy memories with your Ragamuffin. Cherish the special moments with your pet and keep them close to your heart. Display pictures of your cat around your home or office. Develop family traditions that include your pet. Special occasions for your family can include celebrating your cat's birthday, exchanging sentiments on special holidays, and even sharing memorable Ragamuffin stories with extended family.

Ragamuffin Medical Considerations

Ragamuffins have been bred with a very broad genetic base, Due to this large genetic base, Ragamuffins do not have any known genetic defects. Ragamuffins are not particularly prone to any specific illnesses or diseases. They are generally a trouble free breed, and very healthy overall. Ragamuffins are generally easy to breed, and the litters are usually normal sized and healthy. Ragamuffins are specifically bred for their sweet, even temper and should generally be kept inside. They are very friendly with strangers and probably would not understand outside dangers very well.



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