Deworming Guidelines for Cats & Kittens

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Regular deworming is recommended by the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists (AAVP), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC).

Doctors Foster & Smith Deworming Guidelines	
* Drs. Foster and Smith suggest that owners of newly acquired kittens should obtain the deworming history of their new pet and contact their veterinarian to determine if additional deworming is needed.	
Kittens*	Because prenatal infections do not occur in kittens, initiate treatment at 3 weeks; repeat at 5, 7, and 9 weeks of age, and then put on a monthly heartworm preventive that also controls intestinal parasites. Using a year-round heartworm preventive/intestinal parasite combination product decreases the risk of parasites.
Nursing Dams	Treat at the same time as kittens.
Adult Cats	If on a year-round heartworm preventive/intestinal parasite combination product, have a fecal test performed 1-2 times per year and treat appropriately. If not on a year-round heartworm preventive/intestinal parasite combination product, have a fecal test performed 2-4 times per year and treat appropriately. Also monitor and eliminate parasites in pet's environment.
Newly Acquired Animals	Worm immediately; repeat in 2 weeks, then follow above recommendations.

Worming products for cats can be found in our Non-prescription Wormers and Prescription Wormers sections.

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