

How to Choose Your Puppy or Kitten

Family Matters

Choosing a puppy or kitten is one of the most exciting decisions you'll ever make. They won't simply become your pet—they'll become part of your family for many years to come.

At Amity, we believe that making the right decision starts with education. Taking a little extra time now can spare years of heartache later and give your new family member the very best start in life.

Before You Choose

Be honest with yourself and choose a pet that suits **your family**, not just your heart.

Consider:

- **Breed** – Does their temperament, energy level and exercise needs match your lifestyle?
- **Size** – Larger pets usually mean higher food, medication and healthcare costs throughout their lives.
- **Training** – Every puppy and kitten needs time, patience and guidance to become a wonderful family companion.
- **Health** – Some breeds are more prone to inherited conditions than others. Understanding these risks before you choose is one of the greatest gifts you can give your future pet.
- **Veterinary Care** – Routine health checks, vaccinations, parasite prevention and neutering are all part of responsible pet ownership.
- **Insurance** – We strongly believe every pet deserves good insurance. It protects both your pet and your ability to make the best decisions if illness or injury occurs.

Choosing the Right Puppy or Kitten

A healthy puppy or kitten should be raised in a clean, caring and well-socialised environment.

Look for one that is:

- Bright, curious and playful.
- Happy interacting with people.
- Clean, with bright eyes and a clean nose.
- Free from coughing, sneezing or signs of illness.
- Healthy with a clean coat, healthy skin and no obvious lumps or abnormalities.

Meet Mum if possible, and don't be afraid to ask questions. A responsible breeder or rescue will be just as interested in you as you are in them because they want their animals to become cherished family members.

Avoid collecting puppies or kittens from motorway services, car parks or other temporary meeting places. Never feel pressured into making a decision before you're ready.

Remember...

You're not choosing a pet for today.

You're choosing a companion who may share the next 10–20 years of your life.

Choose with your head as well as your heart.

After all...

Family Matters.

If you need more information, **book an appointment with an Amity vet.** We're here to empower you through education so you can give your newest family member the very best start in life.