



## Solano Home Veterinary Care

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## Feline Preventive Care Recommendations

Overall preventive care for cats should include a combination of wellness examinations, vaccinations, and medications for treatment and control of internal and external parasites. The following information is intended to be a short summary of the currently recommended routine preventive care for cats living in Solano County.

### Vaccinations:

1. Standard Vaccinations (recommended/required for all cats)
  - a. Kittens should receive FVRCP (Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, & Panleukopenia) vaccinations starting at 7-8 weeks of age, and then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age.
  - b. All cats should receive a Rabies vaccination at 16 weeks of age.
  - c. After the initial kitten series the next FVRCP & Rabies vaccinations should be given 1 year later (then every 3 years thereafter).
  - d. Cats over 6 months of age at their first vaccinations should receive 1 dose of FVRCP and Rabies vaccine followed by revaccination 1 year later (then every 3 years thereafter).
2. Non-Standard Vaccinations (recommended/required only in certain situations)
  - a. FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus) vaccination is only recommended for cats with outdoor access or those indoor cats with direct exposure (sharing food or water bowls) to indoor/outdoor cats. A blood test to determine that a cat is not currently infected is recommended before initial vaccination. All cats (over 9 weeks of age) should receive 2 doses 3-4 weeks apart followed by revaccination 1 year later (then every 3 years thereafter).
  - b. Multiple other vaccines are available but they are not currently recommended for routine use. These include FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus), FIP (feline infectious peritonitis), Chlamydia, Bordetella, and Ringworm vaccines.

### Internal Parasite Control:

1. Intestinal Parasites- Kittens should be dewormed for roundworms during the initial vaccination series. Periodic fecal examination should be performed to check for any reinfection.
2. Heartworm Disease- Monthly preventive medication is not recommended because of the low risk of this disease in cats in this geographic area.

### External Parasite Control:

Fleas and Ticks- There are a variety of very effective products available for elimination/control of these parasites. Be aware that the products available through veterinarians are far more effective than those at pet stores. Currently Frontline Plus is an excellent choice for control of both fleas and ticks (it is a topical liquid applied monthly). Please call us for specific recommendations for your cat based on their exposure and risk factors.