



All About the **Ragdoll**

A complimentary eBook from CheapPetStore.com

Our prices say it all. Our Pet Library makes it better.™



The Ragdoll

About the Ragdoll

Ragdolls are people-oriented cats with a sedate temperament. They are not known for their voice (although they will speak up when dinner is due), and love to be cuddled. Friendly and calm, they make terrific pets, adapting well to many people and other pets.

Ragdolls were developed in the early 1960's in the US. Although they were originally cross-bred from other cats (Persian, Birman, and Burmese), they are a distinct line now.

Average Weight	12-30 lbs	Temperament	Gentle, sweet & docile.
Average Height	Large-sized housecat	Good with Children?	Yes! Excellent with children.
Coat	Soft, medium-long coat, does not mat	Health Concerns	Live long, healthy lives

Ragdoll Characteristics

Ragdoll cats tend towards a heavy build. While they are not terribly active, they are noted for their sweetness and mild-mannered nature. They bond closely with their masters and truly enjoy extensive human contact. Gentle ragdolls are an excellent choice for households with children. Unlike Siamese, they don't require constant grooming, just some regular maintenance of their soft, rabbit-like fur, especially around the fluffier hindquarters.

Ragdolls are not in the least bit aggressive. They assume that anything or anyone coming towards them has good intentions, so they should be kept as exclusively indoor cats.

Selecting Your Ragdoll Kitten

Making the decision to either adopt or purchase your kitten from a breeder is a matter of personal choice. Both options are discussed here, along with some positives and negatives for both.

A Few Words About Adoption

Every year, thousands of animals are either captured or turned in by their owners to be adopted. These pets can make wonderful companions and desire a loving home to call their own. When considering adoption, you should choose an animal shelter or rescue in your nearby community that you trust and one that has a long-standing reputation for providing exceptional care to the animals. Shelters that have an on-site vet clinic are a plus. Many facilities will require the pet to be spayed or neutered before the adoption is complete. This fee will be included in the adoption costs.



- [Toys for Your Ragdoll](#)
- [Treats for Your Ragdoll](#)



 [Send this eBook to a Friend](#)

A Few Words About Breeders

Some people will prefer that their Ragdoll comes from a reputable breeder. This can be the best choice for owners wishing to show their cat or become breeders themselves. Breeders can provide you with a wealth of knowledge around Shorthairs, including health issues, family history, and the various breed characteristics. You can find cat breeders by looking in the newspaper, searching on the internet, or checking with the local vet. You should have a list of questions ready to ask the breeder when you visit or call. It is good to inquire about the length of time the breeder has been in business, if the parents will be available for you to see, and what kind of health guarantees and records will be provided. Expect a good breeder to have several questions for you as well, such as the environment in which the cat will reside, and how much time you will be able to spend with the cat.

Purchasing your Ragdoll from a breeder or adopting are both good choices. You need to be sure to do your research first and to avoid making a quick decision based on immediate availability. Sometimes it is better to build a relationship first with a chosen breeder and plan for an upcoming litter

How to Choose your Ragdoll

Choosing a new kitten can be one of the most exciting events in your family. It is important that you have done your homework upfront and know what kind of cat you are looking for. Some things to look for when selecting your new kitten are:

- No major skin conditions; clean, healthy coat
- Clean and clear eyes
- Coughing or difficult breathing (signs of respiratory infections)
- Paw pads soft and no deep cracking or infections
- Limping, little or no movement (signs of injury or birth defects)
- Proper weight/size

Bringing Your Ragdoll Home

Kittens are explorers, and everything for them is a potential adventure. Be sure 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. This includes shoes and electric cords, as kittens like to explore and can sometimes chew. Use the rule "out of sight, out of mind" when introducing your kitten to his new environment. If you have other pets already, you should be sure that their food is in a safe place, at least in the beginning until everyone adjusts.

It's also a good idea to pick up a book on your kitten, so that you can further understand the breed and what sort of things to expect as they grow. Once your kitten comes home, you will want to make an appointment with your vet, if you have one already, or chose one based on a recommendation or by locale. If you have purchased your kitten from a breeder or animal shelter, they have most likely had their first set of shots. Regular visits to the vet will ensure your pet a happy and healthy life. Your vet will also be able to address any concerns, behavior issues, or other questions that you might have.



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

- [Cat Playpen](#)
- [Cat Playpen Bench Warmer](#)
- [Cat-N-Round Cat Bed](#)
- [Lightweight Double Diner](#)
- [Rattle & Roll Mouse](#)
- [Evolve Dry Kitten Food](#)
- [Safety Cat Lead & Harness](#)
- [Booda Dome Clean Step Iris Cat Litter Box](#)
- [Clean Scoop](#)

EXPERT TIP

Selecting a Bed

When choosing a bed you need to be sure to select one that gives your cat plenty of room. It should be cozy, yet roomy enough for your cat to move around a little. Beds come in a wide variety of designs. Some are simple, while others can be converted from a hideaway to a nest bed. Other beds are constructed of a harder material, such as like wicker or wool and covered in padding. This style is nice because it gives your pet the option of sitting either on top of the bed, or crawling inside.

[Click here to see our Beds.](#)

The Ragdoll Kitten

Each stage of your pet's life is characterized by special needs. Kittens' lives are full of learning experiences. Enjoy the time you spend with your Ragdoll kitten. Early socialization normally prohibits anxious behaviors from surfacing. Good habits, as well as poor ones, are established at this early age. Use consistent training methods and show your kitten your expectations in a positive way and you will not be disappointed.

The Ragdoll Adult

As your cat begins to age, his needs begin to change. Keep surprises to a minimum by being prepared. Your cat should be active and healthy. A listless Ragdoll is unlikely, so watch out for any behavioral changes.

As your cat ages, his nails, paw pads, coat, skin, eyes and ears need ongoing attention. Make grooming a happy time for your cat. Since this breed does not mat its coat, grooming is easy. Also keep claws trimmed as needed and keep teeth tartar under control.

The Ragdoll Senior

Older cats have different needs. Dietary changes are the most prevalent at this lifestage. As your dog ages, so does his digestive system. Make sure your senior Ragdoll maintains a proper diet and receives proper nutrients by starting him on daily vitamins. Keep abreast of the latest trends in dental products. There are many tartar control products on the market today. You may want to provide a more appropriate sleeping and lounging area for your pet. You can help him manage his health with the proper pet healthcare aids, knowledge, and care.

Most cats are considered geriatric at age 10 and older. Most cats live until about 15 years. Senior pets have many changes in disposition and could easily be stressed by active young children. They may show signs of irritability when being handled. Ragdolls 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.

Medical Considerations

Ragdolls are not known to carry any breed-specific illnesses. Of course, be sure to have your cat examined by a veterinarian regularly, but there are few general medical concerns with Ragdolls.



Can't miss gifts for the Ragdoll owner:

- [Blank Cards Cat](#)
- [Kitty Hoots Spiral Note Pad](#)
- [Magnetic Note Pad Cat](#)
- [Mini Cards](#)
- [Danica Mugs](#)
- [Guide To Owning A Cat](#)



 Send this eBook to a Friend

Popular Products for Your Ragdoll

- [Kitty Crows Nest](#)
- [Kitty Square Toy](#)
- [Cat Lead & Collar](#)
- [Biospot Cat](#)
- [Hartz 2-in-1 Cat Flea & Tick Powder](#)
- [Pro Pac Adult Cat Food - Chicken](#)
- [Pet Food Can Covers](#)
- [Waterless Bath](#)
- [Catit Cat Claw Clipper](#)
- [Hartz Vitamins for Cats and Kittens](#)
- [Giant Litter Scoop](#)
- [Carpet Shampoo](#)
- [Battabout Cat Toys](#)
- [Cheese Chase Multi-Activity Cat Toy](#)
- [Boundary Cat Pump](#)
- [Aran 1 Door Carrier](#)
- [Cat Grass](#)
- [Cat In The Hat Bonito Flake](#)



 Send this eBook to a Friend



[Kitty Box
Bed](#)



[Cat Breath
Treat](#)



[Stainless Steel
Retro Double
Cat Bowl](#)



[Catit Double
Side Comb](#)



[Sifting Cat
Litter Box
with Frame](#)



[Dr. Noys Squirrel
Cat Toy](#)

Attention Webmasters: Publishing of this document without express written authorization of Cheap Pet Store, Inc. is deemed unlawful.