

CAPITAL CATS

INCORPORATED
Affiliated Coordinating Cat Council of Australia (CCCA)

Your Rights

You have just purchased a cat/kitten from a breeder registered with Capital Cats Inc. the Governing Body for all breeders of registered cats in the ACT. When you purchase an animal you have all the same rights as you have when you make any purchase ie: the animal should not be faulty and should be suitable for the function that it was sold to fulfil.

1. If you have purchased the animal as a breeding animal it must have no major faults as described in the Judging Standard and must be free from all genetic abnormalities and in good health having had no diseases that may affect its ability to produce healthy offspring. If you have purchased the animal as a pet it should be healthy and have a temperament that is suitable for your lifestyle as described to the breeder by you ie; you have an allergic reaction to cat hair - no cat is suitable, you have small children - a nervous or flighty cat is not suitable, you have a very busy life and may need to go away from time to time - beware of cats with full coats, they require daily grooming, a pair of cats may be best. An animal sold as a pet may well have faults that preclude it from being sold as a show quality animal but these faults should not affect its ability to be a pet.

2. Sometimes a breeder may sell an animal, as a pet only, that has or is recovering from an illness. The breeder is obliged under the rules of Capital Cats to inform you if this is the case and to explain to you the possible outcome and costs of the illness. If this has been done you will have no recourse against the breeder should you change your mind about the suitability of the animal. Animals that have had illnesses as kittens should never be sold to be bred from.

3. All kittens sold by registered breeders must be at least ten weeks of age and should have had at least one vaccination after nine weeks of age, unless the breeder can provide you with written veterinary advice that this is not in the best interest of the particular animal, the only time this should happen is in the case of a kitten sold as per 2.. This vaccination must be given by a recognised veterinary surgeon and you must be given a vaccination certificate signed by that vet. The breeder must also give you a comprehensive care sheet that should cover things from a brief breed description to a guide to grooming and feeding plus vaccinations and desexing.

The Best Laid Plans.

You take your kitten home and one of the following disasters happen:

A. The breed description as provided by the breeder is placid and loving but your kitten rips up the carpet, scratches the furniture and bites guests. The breed description says 'requires minimal grooming' but your animals coat is knotted and tangled within the first week.

B. The animal develops diarrhoea and vomiting.

C. The animal won't eat.

D. The animal becomes ill, developing symptoms of an infectious disease eg; 'flu'.

E. The animal dies.

You should:

1. In the case of A. speak to the breeder. If after researching the breed you discover that the breeder has given you misleading information you have a right to return the animal and receive a refund. Some animals may, however, just react badly to the stress of leaving home so a settling in period may be needed. Perhaps you could seek advice from Capital Cats or another breeder.

2. In the case of B. or C. speak to the breeder. Many animals react badly to the stress of moving, if the problem continues see a vet and take the vet's advice, if you need to return the animal or the vet feels that the animal actually fits into point D. you will need a written vets opinion.

3. In the case of D. or E. speak to the breeder. You have a **RIGHT**, to expect your animal to be healthy. If your animal has been kept indoors and had no contact with other cats the breeder is obligated to either replace the animal or refund your money, but you will need to provide written veterinary evidence that, the animal came from the breeder with an infectious disease or has a genetic fault that has caused its ill health/ death . **It is most likely that any infectious disease will be obviously apparent in the first seven days. Most infectious diseases have an incubation period of one to twenty one days and it is therefore unlikely, although not impossible, that any symptoms exhibited outside this period are a result of an infection contracted at the breeders house.**

Should you be unable to get a satisfactory result from the breeder you can then contact in the listed order: (In all cases you will need to be able and willing to put your complaint in writing and sign it and where applicable provide written veterinary evidence)

1. Capital Cats Inc., any written complaints against our registered breeders **WILL** be taken seriously.

2. Consumer Affairs.

3. Department of Health.

It is always possible that you are being unreasonable and you may not achieve the result that you are pursuing.

