# AVA Foster Parent Pre-Adoption Checklist

Below is a checklist for foster parents to complete prior to AVA cats being available for adoption. This information can be provided to the Foster Coordinator via email (fosterwest@actionvolunteersforanimals.com) or to your assigned Adoption Coordinator.

* Ensure the vaccination date is at least 10 days prior to arrival to the adoption centre.
* Ensure the cat has been symptom-free from any illness for at least 7 days.
* Provide at least three good quality photographs (for posting on AVA website and PetFinder), with six photos preferred.
	+ Some photos can contain multiple cats, for example, in the case of bonded pairs.
* Provide a short biography with information about the cat(s) personality and behaviour (samples attached), including:
	+ Temperament: is the cat shy and timid, or confident and social?
	+ Energy level: is the cat active or calm?
	+ Play time: likes and dislikes, favourite toys (both self-play toys and interactive toys with foster parents) and preferred play techniques.
	+ Handling and touching: does the cat like to be held/picked up, held for short periods, does not like to be held at all? Does the cat sit on your lap, or sit next to you? Does the cat likes to be pet and if so for how long? (If so are there are areas of focus or areas to avoid petting the cat?) Can you trim his/her nails? Does he/she like to be brushed?
	+ Describe whether the cat has had experience with children, other cats, dogs or other animals; if so describe their interactions.
* Provide any additional notes about the cat that will help AVA find the best fit forever home, and help to ease the cat’s transition to the adoption centre, if applicable. For example, let us know if you have tips on how to approach the cat, favourite beds/safe spaces, preferred scratching objects and materials (e.g. horizontal cardboard scratchers or tall vertical sisal rope scratchers), etc.
* Indicate what the cat is eating currently (brand, quantity of dry kibble and wet food, and feeding schedule if applicable) and any preference for treats.

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**CAT BIOGRAPHY EXAMPLE**

Beatrix is a beautiful 2 year old black cat. Beatrix comes from Barry’s Bay in northern Ontario. She is a young mother that was found with her 5 little kittens. While at her foster home, Beatrix loved sleeping on soft beds surrounded by her kittens. Her kittens have all been adopted, and now it’s Beatrix’s turn!

Beatrix is an energetic young cat, who requires lots of daily play-time to use up that energy. Her favourite toys are feather wands, and playing inside cardboard boxes.

She can be found lounging at the top of the cat tree watching the world go by out the window. She also likes using cardboard scratchers.

She loves crunchy chicken treats, and really enjoys her wet food at mealtimes.

Beatrix is an affectionate cat, who comes to you for head scratches. She is a purring machine when you pet her. At her foster home and in the adoption centre, Beatrix plays nicely with other cats. Although Beatrix is a little shy and doesn’t like being picked up, she has cuddly lap cat potential with more patience and love!

She has been around other cats and dogs. She would do best in a quiet and calm home (teenagers/mature children), where her new guardians can be patient and continue to help her blossom. A cat tree is a must for this climber!

**KITTEN BIOGRAPHY EXAMPLE**

Baxter is a handsome Russian blue mix, who is 3 months old. He is bonded to his sister Sixpence, who looks just like him. Baxter is one of three siblings rescued from a large cat colony in the west end of Toronto, just too precious to leave outdoors during the cold winter.

While at his foster home, Baxter loved romping around with his siblings, and all of the other foster cats. After wrestling and chasing his siblings, he would fall asleep snuggled with them. Baxter’s favourite toys are feather toys, and soft mini mice. He enjoys playing fetch with his humans. When Baxter isn’t playing up a storm with his siblings, he likes to snuggle beside you on the couch. When he’s tuckered out, he loves being picked up for head scratches, and especially likes being tickled under his chin. Baxter is a truly adorable purring machine.

His sister Sixpence is a very curious and energetic cat, who requires daily play-time sessions to use up all of that crazy young kitten energy! She can easily be picked up and loves to be cuddled.

These kittens would do well in a home with lots of energy and attention. They have been around children and other cats, but not dogs.