



Happy New Year!  
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# Vets Love Pets!

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## Bringing Home Baby: Introducing New Pets Into Your Home & Family

Congratulations on your new arrival! You've taken the plunge and are now the proud owner of a pet. Of course, you are excited and are looking forward to many years with your new best buddy and companion. So what now? There is a lot to be aware of in caring for your new addition and whether it meows or barks, this month we are orientating you with your new pet. Like you, we want your family to live happily ever after. After all, who will ever provide us with as much unconditional love as our pets?

### Woof, woof, tail wags



First and foremost, be patient. It can take anywhere from two days to two months for your new pooch to adjust to you and their new surroundings. Right away, if not beforehand, create a dog-care routine within your family; feeding times, walking responsibilities, house rules (Will they be allowed to sleep on the furniture?) Remember that dogs are pack animals and need order – establish yourself as “pack leader” – let them know right away who is boss. Reward them with praise when they do well. And, when they are less than impressive, let them know in a firm, loud voice that they're misbehaving. Assume that Fido isn't housetrained and proceed from there. It is easier to put forth the effort in training everyday rather than punishing for poor behaviour. Crating or confining them to a space helps in this feat as it gives the dog a room of their own, it provides them with a safe place. Just be sure that the crate is roomy enough for them to stand up, turn around and sit comfortably in normal posture. Finally, always, always remember that dogs require an active lifestyle – they need plenty of exercise.



### Meow, meow, purr



Let your new cat ease their way into your home. Over the course of a few days, introduce him or her to the house, other pets and members of your family. Provide your new addition with the companionship they seek and they will settle in. There's no need to stress about litter training as cats are naturally clean and will instinctively use their litter box. Place them in their litter box a couple of times and make scratching motions with their paws to help them along. Give them a little privacy by keeping their box in a convenient but secluded location. Though, make sure there is an “escape route” in case your cat is spooked and needs to make a quick getaway. Cats can learn simple rules to obey. To curb the scratching of furniture, jumping on the kitchen counter or eating plants, spritz them with some water. It will require persistence and patience, but your cat will learn. Provide a scratching post for your feline friend to satisfy their scratching impulses. Finally, toys are very important for cats. Whether it is a balled up paper bag or a toy mouse, cats thrive on playtime and of course, it promotes a healthy lifestyle.



### Health Care

Within a week of adoption, take your new friend to your veterinarian. There they should receive a general health check up and any needed vaccinations. If your dog or cat has not been spayed or neutered, carefully consider this option as there are many benefits in their long term health. Our health care team will be happy to explain the benefits of spaying and neutering or answer any other questions you may have.



### New meets Old

- Make sure there is enough room for all animals – all pets require their own territory.
- Avoid potential jealousy issues by ensuring that all pets have their own beds, food dishes and toys.
- They may start to hiss/growl at each other; do not interfere unless they begin to hurt one another. Attempts to gain dominance are perfectly normal!
- Interact with all your dogs at the same time when giving attention. This will keep excessive barking and jumping at bay.
- Do not force your pets to love each other, they will figure out their relationship by themselves.

### Paws meets Feet

Introducing your new pet and your child is a meeting that requires attention and nurturing. It is the beginning of what can be a lasting and valuable relationship. We recommend supervising the first few introductions. In witnessing these, you will discover hurdles that may have to be overcome or know how to answer any questions your child may have. Both parties need to learn how to be gentle with the other and this can take time. Your pet may get a bit territorial with your child and will need to learn how to share. Speak to your veterinarian about tips on how to handle troublesome situations.



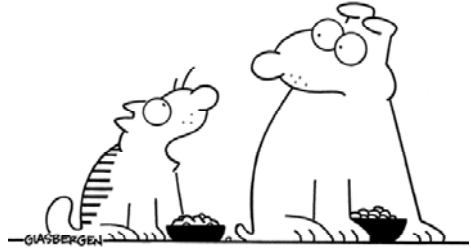
## Santa Claws came to town ...

Pets and their owners braved the cold on December 7<sup>th</sup> to meet Santa Claus – our very own jolly Dr. Rory Wiens. We had our best turn out ever and raised over \$1000 for Benny's Angels! Thanks to all who came out for the support. A big, and huge thank you to Jill Shantz of J. Shantz Photography for volunteering her time and taking such beautiful photos. Visit [www.jshantzphoto.com](http://www.jshantzphoto.com) to see more of her impressive work.



## FIGHT THE HOLIDAY BULGE!

This time of year we are taking advantage of the fresh start and taking strides to better ourselves in many different fashions. A common choice is the vow to hit the gym and eat better; take better care of ourselves! Our pets unfortunately cannot make this choice for themselves, so this year make it a household choice and help your pet shed those holiday pounds!! A healthy lifestyle is imperative to their well-being as it is to ours. Hills Prescription Diet offers their R/D blend which helps "husky" animals lose weight while making them feel full. Furthermore, it increases lean body mass while burning fat. Speak to a member of our health care team to determine what is best for your pet.



"The vet says i need a hobby. I thought eating and sleeping were my hobbies!"



**February is Dental Month and to prepare you, we are continuing our dental consultations. Bring the coupon below into Tudor Glen Veterinary Hospital to receive your complimentary consultation which consists of a full dental check up, instructions on how to brush your pet's teeth, and dietary advice to aid in oral maintenance.**

Redeemable for one

**Complimentary Dental  
Consultation**

Call 780.458.6051 to book



## DO I HAVE TO?

No, you don't! For those less than enjoyable situations, the ones that involve you wrestling with your feisty cat to trim their nails, this is just a friendly reminder that we offer Technologist Appointments. This service does not require a doctor and is available for your dogs, cats and exotics procedures:

- anal gland expressions
- nail trims
- ear pluck & cleaning
- suture removal



## Your Pets were a HUGE help!!!

We would like to thank you and your pets for helping us raise \$950 over the holiday season for the Edmonton Humane Society (SPCA). Your generosity is very much appreciated by us, as well as by those pets who are now tucked in tight at night with their new best friends in their forever homes.



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