

Weight is one of the best and easiest ways to monitor a kitten's health, especially for young kittens who may not show obvious symptoms right away. Tiny changes on the scale can help us catch medical concerns early, often before a kitten looks visibly sick.

Drops in weight can be an early sign of:

- Upper respiratory infections (URI)
- Urinary tract infections (UTI)
- Intestinal parasites
- Dehydration
- Digestive upset
- Difficulty eating or nursing
- Other underlying medical concerns

Generally, the sooner we find a problem, the quicker we can address it and the less severe the issue may become. Healthy kittens should steadily gain weight as they grow. While small day-to-day fluctuations can happen, ongoing weight loss or lack of growth is something we want to know about right away.

Please Contact Us If:

- A kitten loses weight or stays the same weight for two days in a row
- A kitten is acting lethargic, not eating well, or seems "off"
- You are unsure whether a weight trend is normal

How Often Should I Weigh?

- Kittens under 1.4 pounds should be weighed daily, be sure to write them down every day to monitor trends!
- Ideally, weigh kittens around the same time each day for consistency
- There's no need to weigh multiple times a day, once is ok! We expect small fluctuations throughout the day depending on meals and bowel movements.

Tips for Accurate Weighing

- Kittens under 1.4 pounds should be weighed daily in either grams or ounces.
- Be sure to write them down every day to monitor trends!
- Ideally, weigh kittens around the same time each day for consistency
- There's no need to weigh multiple times a day, once is ok! We expect small fluctuations throughout the day depending on meals and bowel movements.
- Use the scale on a flat, hard surface and be sure to zero/tare it every time.

Don't Have a Scale?

No problem! If you ever need a scale, just let us know and we can set one aside for pickup.

We're Here to Help!

When in doubt, always reach out. You can email or text us anytime with concerns about your foster kittens. Even if it ends up being nothing, we would much rather you ask early than wait too long.

