

WHEN BABY'S ON THE WAY



There are many things you can do to prepare pets for baby's arrival.

Remember! Pregnant women should never change kitty litter.

A few months before baby is due:

- Consider having pets fixed and ensure all shots are up-to-date.
- Consider obedience training for dogs.
- Allow pets to explore the nursery. Install a gate or screen door if you want to keep pets out.
- Apply baby lotion to a blanket and let your pets smell it.
- Play tapes of a crying baby. Slowly increase the volume as pets adjust to the noise.

A month before baby is due:

- Carry a doll wrapped in a blanket.
- Encourage pets to lie at your feet while holding the doll.
- Invite friends with babies over to visit with your pets.
- Arrange for someone to walk your dog when baby is born.

When baby comes home:

- Have someone bring baby's worn clothes home for pets to sniff.
- Ensure mom enters the house first. Greet pets alone.
- Have someone bring baby in and let pets smell baby. Offer a treat to ensure this is a positive experience.