



# Keeping a Cat

## Cat registration

Responsible pet owners microchip and register their dog or cat and ensure that their contact details are up to date.

You can now update your contact details on the new [NSW Pet Registry](#). If your dog or cat is lost, up to date contact details are the best way to bring your pet home.

For details on microchipping and registration, visit the [NSW Office of Local Government website](#).

## Cat owner responsibilities

As a cat owner, you have to make sure your cat doesn't become a neighbourhood nuisance.

You should:

- minimise your cat's impact on neighbours and wildlife
- identify your cat with a collar and microchip
- desex your cat before it is six months old
- vaccinate your cat annually
- provide your cat with enough food, water, exercise and enrichment

If your cat is not desexed by 6 months of age, a permit is required.

## Know where your cat is

It is in your cat's best interests for you to keep it inside your property at all times. Where possible, consider a cat enclosure where your cat is within the confines of a set area. Your cat will be less likely to be hurt in fights, pick up diseases, be hit by cars or cause a nuisance. A cat causing a public nuisance by spraying or disrupting other domestic or native animals may provoke anger from neighbours or risk being picked up by Council officers.

You should keep your cat indoors at night to prevent it preying on nocturnal animals. Put bells or reflective mirrors on your cat's collar to protect wildlife.

Sometimes cats do get lost. Many end up in animal shelters and are put down because their owner cannot be identified. You can help prevent this by ensuring your cat always wears a collar and identification tag with your contact details.

Microchipping is a lifelong solution to identifying your cat if it becomes lost.

## Nuisance cats

If a neighbourhood domestic cat is causing a problem, your best option is to talk to the cat's

