

Photographing Your New Pet

Photographing puppies and kittens can be very challenging, even for a trained professional. They are constantly on the move, getting into mischief, and haven't yet learned to sit, stay and pose. But don't despair; **you can get some great images with these tips** with no matter what kind of camera you have.

First, **make sure you have a camera with you at all times**. It is almost impossible to predict when they are going to do something photo worthy so you want to be ready when they do.

Then, **get down on your puppy's or kitten's level**. Don't be afraid to kneel down, sit on the ground, or even lay in the grass. If you want your pet to look right into the lens, either wait patiently until they do it naturally, or make a noise. If you use a squeak toy to get your puppy's attention, make sure that it is lens height so they are looking right into the lens and not up. For cats, crinkle a bag or wave a feather to get their attention. Fill the frame with their full body and face and you will get some amazing images!



Your new pet will only be small for a short period of time, so **make sure to get some images highlighting their size**. Show scale, photographing them in their environment, for example on the couch or next to a tree. You may even want to include larger pets or other family members in the image.

Kitten and puppy images can't help but be full of personality! **Try and capture the adorable expressions that they give, as well as their playful nature**. To keep the focus on your animal, watch your images for unwanted clutter, especially in the background. Is there a pole growing out of their head? What is around your puppy or kitten that may draw attention away from them as the star of the image? Sometimes all you have to do is reposition yourself slightly in order to get a prettier background.

Before you click, **check the light**. Try and avoid direct sunlight at midday. If you are shooting indoors, turn off your flash and use natural window light instead.

Want more tips and tricks? Email me and I'll send you a free PDF with even more pointers about taking great photos of your furbaby. Good luck!

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