



Porter County Fair 4-H Cat Show Guide



What to Bring:

1. A clean cat! No ear mites or fleas.
2. Something to cover the top and back of the cage so the cat is unable to see his/her neighbors. The cages provided are 30" x 30" and 28" high. There are three cages per section.
3. A small litter pan or you can make one from a gift box. Please line the bottom with tin foil. Be sure that the box is large enough to accommodate your cat.
4. A small water and food dish. Consider bringing a bottle of water from home as your cat is used to this water. Turkey baby food is also a good idea to bring, if your cat will eat it. This food acts as a tranquilizer for a nervous cat. Also, a plastic two-liter pop bottle with frozen water is a good idea (don't forget a thin piece of material to cover the bottle with).
5. Small fan, if possible.
6. A trash bag is nice to have, as well as paper towels (in case of messes).
7. Grooming brush
8. A small cloth to wipe the face. Bounce sheets make nice wipes to go over a shorthaired cat to calm down the hair and pick up loose hairs. Do not overdo it. You don't want a greasy looking cat.
9. Q-Tips for ears.
10. Baby oil, if your cat has a black nose (again, don't overdo it).
11. Before the show, make certain that your cat's shots are up to date as required on the Certification of Vaccination form. The veterinarian administering the shots must sign and date this form. Shots should be given at least 30 days prior to the show and no more than 12 months before the show date. The Certification of Vaccination form must accompany the project cat at check-in.

Show Preparations:

- Longhaired cats should be brushed each day, starting long before the show date. A day or so before the show, the cat should be bathed, nails on all four paws clipped, and thoroughly groomed so that the coat feels clean when you stroke the fur.
- Shorthaired cats are the wash and wear type. You should brush the coat to remove any dead hair and 3-5 days before the show clip the nails on all four paws and give it a good bath followed by daily grooming. Again the fur should feel clean when you stroke the fur. Bathing shorthairs 3-5 days prior to the show allow the oils to return to the coat to give it a sheen. Be sure you clip the nails on your cat a few days before the show. This protects you and the judge.
- If you get all of your supplies together ahead of time and put them in a box, including your show papers you will not forget something important.
- You may wear whatever you choose for the show, but look neat and clean. The judge will notice your appearance and interest in your cat for the showmanship award.
- Also, if your cat is an outdoor cat, it is best to get it in the night before the show so it doesn't take off. This happens quite often. You will have to be extra observant about fleas and ear mites.