

# HUMANE SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS

## **Are you ready for a cat?**

Ask yourself:

- ✓ Do I have enough time for a pet? Affection, grooming, feeding and exercising is needed daily.
- ✓ Do I have a place or two in my home where I am willing to place litter boxes? Am I willing to clean the litter box on a daily basis?
- ✓ Do I mind having cat hair in my house and having to clean more often?
- ✓ Can I afford veterinary care, licensing, food and grooming costs? This can run up to thousands of dollars a year in sometimes unexpected expenses.
- ✓ What will I do with my cat when I go on vacation or have to travel for my job?
- ✓ Do I know about and am I willing to obey community laws concerning animals?
- ✓ Am I willing to be patient with my cat? Can I deal with my earrings or toothpaste cap being batted around the floor as a toy, and all of the messes and accidents pets make?
- ✓ Will my children be gentle to the cat and treat it well? Am I expecting them to be responsible enough to help care for the cat? Am I prepared to be completely responsible for the cat's care when they lose interest?
- ✓ What happens if I have a job-related move or other relocation? Am I willing to deal with the frustrations of finding pet-friendly housing?
- ✓ Am I willing to make a commitment to this cat for its entire life? Have I ever made a commitment that spans 15-20 years or more?