

## KHS FOSTER QUARANTINE QUICKSHEET

### Why do we quarantine new foster puppies and kittens?

Most illnesses, from common upper respiratory infections to more major diseases like parvo or panleukopenia will typically begin showing symptoms within 2 weeks from time of exposure and for this reason, a *minimum* 2-week health quarantine is **MANDATORY**. During this period, animals must stay strictly isolated in your quarantine space and not allowed to interact with any animals outside their own litter.

Some hardy pathogens can stay alive and viable in the environment for *years* unless it is properly treated with a bleach solution. **A lax or incomplete quarantine protocol could result in your household becoming infected and prevent you from being able to safely foster in the future.**

DO	DON'T
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do disinfect your space before and after each group of fosters</li> <li>• Do sanitize or wash your hands after interacting with your fosters or their items</li> <li>• Do put away or remove any decorations, plants, or other items that can't be disinfected or are potentially hazardous</li> <li>• Do establish a "quarantine outfit", a comfy set of easily removable shirt, pants, and socks or slippers that can be worn when inside the quarantine room and removed upon exiting</li> <li>• Do utilize easily sanitized or even disposable supplies and toys during quarantine</li> <li>• Do place a towel or other barrier to block doors with large gaps at the bottom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't underestimate how quickly a foster can sneak past you and out the door. Setting up a baby gate at the door to your quarantine space is a good insurance policy</li> <li>• Don't allow resident animals into your quarantine space, even if not interacting with your fosters</li> <li>• Don't take your foster out of their quarantine space (even if held and wrapped in a towel) until 2 weeks have past AND they are healthy</li> <li>• Don't set "soiled" items from your quarantine space down on a non-sanitizable surface. Go directly to your sanitizing station with them</li> <li>• Don't have porous, bulky pet furniture like carpeted cat trees in this space as these cannot be properly disinfected</li> </ul>

### What does a quarantine space require?

A quarantine space must be fully sanitizable, meaning absolutely NO carpet, poorly sealed/gapped wooden flooring, upholstered furniture, rugs, or other porous surfaces that can't be properly disinfected. The more bare or simple the space, the easier it will be to properly clean and disinfect. Bathrooms often make ideal quarantine spaces and require few alterations.

If an entire room isn't available, a pop up enclosure such as a wire dog kennel or pet play pen can work to create a self-contained quarantine space. Be sure to place a non-permeable layer such as a tarp underneath your popup to protect the floor and surrounding area from contamination. Kittens and most puppies don't require a ton of space, just enough to comfortably fit a potty area, food dish, and some room to play.