

<b>Title</b>	<b>Identify, handle, and care for cats</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for people working in an animal care context.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify cats by breed, age, sex, and individual characteristics; handle a cat; and feed, water, and groom a healthy cat.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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## Guidance Information

- 1 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with:
  - Equipment manufacturer's recommendations;
  - Workplace procedures;
  - New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*;
  - Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards;
  - Relevant National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare, available at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz), under Animal Welfare;
  - Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz) under Animal Welfare;
  - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
  - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
  - Resource Management Act 1991;
  - and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 **Definition**  
*Workplace procedures* refer to the documented procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer.
- 3 **Assessment**  
 Practical evidence must include evidence of ongoing animal care. For assessment of Outcome 3, the candidate is expected to meet the daily care requirements of a healthy cat in a commercial setting over a period of at least three days. The three days are not required to be consecutive.  
 Practical handling must be assessed using a live cat.
- 4 Information about cat breeds can be found at <http://www.fanciers.com>.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Identify cats by breed, age, sex, and individual characteristics.

#### Performance criteria

1.1 Identify cats in terms of their breed.

Range may include but is not limited to – domestic short hair, domestic long hair, Siamese, Burmese, Birman, Abyssinian, Devon rex, Cornish rex, Persian, chinchilla; evidence is required for at least eight.

1.2 Identify cats in terms of their age and sex.

Range kitten, adult, senior;  
male – neutered, entire;  
female.

1.3 Document a cat's individual characteristics for the purpose of identification for admission to an animal facility.

Range includes but is not limited to – colour, weight, distinguishing features;  
may include – name, tags, microchip.

### Outcome 2

Handle a cat.

#### Performance criteria

2.1 Handle a cat safely for routine activities in a secure environment.

Range top and front-loading cages – remove from cage, replace in cage; carry cat out of cage.

2.2 Restrain a cat safely for clinical examination.

Range may include but is not limited to clinical examination for – temperature, heart rate, eye examination, ear examination; evidence is required for at least three.

2.3 Describe procedures for handling fractious, pregnant, injured, senior, and unwell cats.

### Outcome 3

Feed, water, and groom a healthy cat.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Feed and water cat.
- 3.2 Maintain feeding equipment.
- 3.3 Groom a cat.
- 3.4 Maintain grooming equipment.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2023
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	30 June 1996	31 December 2019
Revision	2	16 December 1996	31 December 2019
Revision	3	16 November 1998	31 December 2019
Review	4	12 June 2000	31 December 2019
Revision	5	16 October 2002	31 December 2019
Review	6	26 July 2005	31 December 2019
Revision	7	25 June 2007	31 December 2019
Review	8	1 November 2018	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0228
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the Primary ITO [standards@primaryito.ac.nz](mailto:standards@primaryito.ac.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.