







## CONGRATULATIONS

You've just adopted a barn cat & saved her life. Here are a few tips to help her acclimate:

Please place the cats (and their condo, if crated) <u>inside</u> the barn or building you want them to reside in. Place the crate somewhere convenient for you so you can feed/clean the cats easily for the next few weeks.

The single most important thing you can do to help your new cats is <u>KEEP THEM IN THEIR CRATE OR CONFINED SPACE</u> for 2-4 weeks. (2 weeks is the *minimum*, 4 weeks is optimal.) Your new cats are very frightened and confused right now. They do not know where they are and they do not know that you are trying to help them. If you let them out before 2-4 weeks, they will run away, get lost, and perhaps die. So for 2-4 weeks, please keep them confined in their crates.

Feed daily, scoop their box daily, and provide fresh water. Most cats will stay at the back of their crate, inside their hiding box, while you feed and clean, or they will run and hide when you open the door to the room they are in. Most will not try to escape, but use precaution. While you feed, talk to the cats, make "kitty kitty" calls so the cats learn that the sound of your voice means food! At the end of the 2-4 week confinement period, simply leave the crate or barn door open and allow the cats to come out at their own pace. Leave the crate in place and continue feeding nearby. Often the cats will continue to use the crate to sleep.

After they have been released, continue to provide cat food and water daily. Cats cannot live on mousing alone and they will leave your farm for greener pastures if you do not provide cat food. They will still hunt rodents if you feed them. Cats also need shelter from the elements and protection from predation, so make sure they can get back in their building at all times.

If you have any questions at all, please contact us! We are here to help!

Please tell others about our Barn Cat Program! Unfortunately, unsocialized feral cats like the ones you just rescued are being killed in shelters across the US every single day. Help us save them and spread the word that they make great working cats!