

PAWS A WHILE

HUMANE SOCIETY OF TUOLUMNE COUNTY

JUNE

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Interesting Facts About the Month of June

June or 'Junius' in the past, was originally the fourth month of the year in the Roman, or Julian, calendar and consisted of 29 days.

This structure was changed in 1752 when the Gregorian calendar was chosen instead, which moved June to the sixth month. The Gregorian calendar just seemed to make a lot more sense in terms of leap years.

Ever wondered why June is such a popular month for weddings, apart from the good weather?

Well, some say that it was named after Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage. What's even more interesting is that in the early 20th century, June became such a popular name in the United States, it was the 39th most picked for a baby girl.

June is calling you...

The invention of the phone was one of the most groundbreaking discoveries of all time, one most of us can't live without. And while most of us associate the invention with one

name Alexander Graham Bell, it appears as if we've been slightly misled.

Enter Antonio Meucci, without whom we wouldn't have the household appliance we rely on to talk to our loved ones and not-so-loved ones. Meucci invented a telephonic device in 1871. However, in his patent he didn't include the electromagnetic transmission of vocal sound. So, in 1876 Bell cottoned onto this and took the patent as his own by mentioning what Meucci missed.

On June 11, 2002, to the roars of many Italian supporters, Meucci was recognized by the U.S. House of Representatives as aiding to create and invent the telephone after nearly 200 years.

All of you Snapchat, Instagram, and Whatsapp junkies – you can now thank Meucci, too!

More Upcoming June Events

Ever the eternal optimist, when I think of June I expect sun, fun, and lots of both! It seems as if the inventors of some of the quirkier days of the month also share this sentiment.

For example, June 5th is Hot Air Balloon Day. A day to celebrate the floating contraption that first successfully carried someone skyward in 1783.

June 6th is National Yo-Yo Day and the perfect day to blow the cobwebs off that box hidden under the bed, find your Yo-Yo and "Walk the Dog."

Then there's National Apple Strudel Day on June 16th, National Martini Day on June 19th, and one of my favorites, National Sunglasses Day on June 27th.

So June's bursting with life, electronic devices, goddesses, and copious helpings of apple strudel.

Bring it on June...you are my favorite month!

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The Four Best Dog Breeds for Apartments and Small Homes

You might think you need to have a huge house with a big fenced-in outdoor space to get a dog. Yet the truth is, if you're living in an apartment or a smaller home, there are plenty of breeds that will adapt to your space and steal your heart. Here are four of the best dogs for apartments and small homes.

Yorkshire Terrier: The Lovable Lap Dog

This breed is one of the best apartment dogs for several reasons:

- 1. They're toy-sized.** Standing at a little over nine inches and weighing around seven pounds, these tiny terriers won't take up much of your coveted space.
- 2. They're easy to train.** These pups are highly intelligent, and with proper training you won't have to worry about accidents inside, uncontrollable barking that bothers your neighbors or excessive chewing.
- 3. They're bouncy but not overly**



energetic. While this breed certainly has determination, they don't require a whole lot of exercise. A quick walk of 15 to 20 minutes in the morning and another at night is enough.

Yorkie Factoid: This toy breed is hypoallergenic.

Havanese: The Cuban Companion

The Havanese breed is another one of the best dog breeds for apartments because:

- 1. They're small in stature.** Like Yorkies, Havanese don't take up much space, weighing around 15 pounds.
- 2. They're nice and quiet.** This breed isn't yappy – something your neighbors will appreciate.
- 3. They're easier to train.** These dogs are highly trainable, eager to please, and they thrive on positive reinforcement. Their personality goes a long way towards successfully potty training, crate training, and leash training.
- 4. They're active, but not too active.** Havanese are energetic yet don't need hours of exercise. A daily walk or two should do the trick.

Havanese Factoid: If you're always on the go, this might not be the breed for you as these dogs do best with lots of two-legged or four-legged company.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel: The Cuddly Confidant

This breed may have royal roots but they don't need to live in palatial splendor to thrive. Cavaliers love being close to their owners, so the smaller the space the better as far as they're concerned.

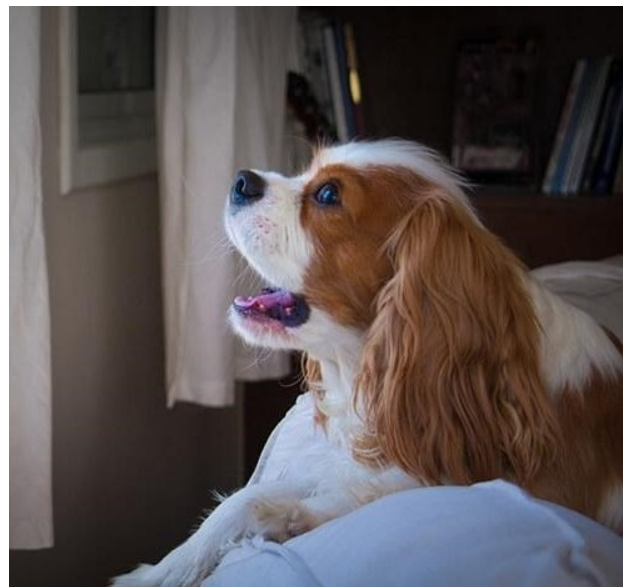
- 1. They're petite.** Cavaliers generally weigh between 13 and 17 pounds and don't require much room to roam.
- 2. They're smart cookies.** Intelligent and trainable, you can work with this breed to avoid accidents, chewing, and scratching.
- 3. They're playful, but not too high-energy.** Twenty minutes of exercise each day will keep these pups happy and healthy.

Cavalier Factoid: This breed loves people and do not do well as kennel dogs.

Basenji: The “Barkless” Wonder

Basenjis are slightly larger than others on this list, ranging in weight from 19 to 26 pounds yet find themselves right at home in an apartment or small home.

- 1. They truly are “barkless.”** Their larynx



is uniquely structured and only allows for occasional yodels, which could be fun for you and your friends on karaoke night.

2. They're independent. These cat-like dogs have low-shed coats, groom themselves, and don't require a ton of maintenance.

3. House training . . . with a little encouragement. Just stay consistent in the beginning. Basenjis can be stubborn, yet positive reinforcement and encouragement will help you successfully house train them.



4. They're spirited, but also like to lounge. As long as they get regular exercise, Basenjis will do fine in a smaller space. However, left home alone with nothing to do, this breed will find things to get into.

Basenji Factoid: If you're out of the house for long periods each day, this might not be the breed for you.

Plenty of pups are content in small spaces as long as they get daily walks and lots of cuddles with their best friend (that's you!). Plus, they'll make your apartment or smaller home cozier than any rug or blanket ever could.



Food-themed Pet Names are all the Rage!

A recent survey suggests that all the time we've spend making bread and experimenting in the kitchen, making our morning coffee, and having that evening cocktail this past year, has led to some fun names for our furry friends! Here's what's currently trending.

Bread – Cats named Croissant doubled from 2019 to 2020. Also on the rise: Brioche, Rye, and Sandwich (really!!??)

Coffee – Caffeine-themed dog names including Cortado, Barista, and Espresso are seeing a boost.

Cocktails – And finally cocktail names like Sazerac and Gimlet are popular, and the name Pino Noir is up 258 percent for dogs (go figure!).

Dear Tabby



What is a group of cats called? A group of cats is a clowder or a glaring while a group of related kittens is a litter and a few litters are a kindle. Clowder originated in Middle England from the term “clotter” which means “to huddle together.”

What dog breed is the most common mascot used in college sports? The bulldog is the third most common mascot after the eagle and the tiger.

PurrFact: Like other running animals, many dogs lack a clavicle or collarbone!



Top Tips for the First Month with Your New Kitten

Remember, no matter how excited you are, and how well prepared you are, this will be an anxious time for your kitten. The first month with your new kitten is a time of change as you adjust to each other. Here are some things that you can do to help make it go smoothly and you will soon have a happy and confident little companion.

Set Up Their Space Before Bringing Them Home

Now that you've chosen the perfect kitten for your family, prepare for their arrival. Set up a safe room, or “base camp”, for your new little addition. A small bedroom or bathroom will work. Any small room where kitty can stay but not be overwhelmed or frightened.

Fill your kitten's sanctuary room with all the new kitten "must haves" – a litter box, scratching posts, places to get up high and to hide away, toys for solo play. Put out food and water where they can see it yet away from the litter box.

Bring a blanket from their original home if you can as the familiar scent will help to soothe them. If you have other pets put a blanket or towel that they have slept on in the room. Kitty will get used to their scent before they meet.

Leave their carrier in the base camp so they can snuggle up in it and feel safe. Take the door off and set the carrier so they can see the room from it.

The general "rule of thumb" is to keep your new fur baby separated from other pets for at least two weeks. After the two-week period, it will be up to your new kitty to set the pace for acclimating to their new home. There's no magical number of days it will take for your cat to settle in...so be patience.

Kitten Proof Your House

Kittens can get into a lot more trouble than you can imagine so kitten proofing your home is a must, starting with their base camp. Put away rubber bands, hair elastics, jewelry, string, balloons, and other small objects your baby could swallow. Wrap up electrical wires, phone cords, and curtain pulls in cord managers and secure them out of kitty's reach.

Assume that kitty will climb anything remotely climbable. Review a poison control list and remove any poisonous plants from your home. Keep the toilet lid, washer, dryer, and cabinets closed. Make sure they can't get into any ductwork or pipes.

Socialize With Kitty

Help your new cat get to know you. Place a t-shirt or a piece of your clothing that contains your scent in their base camp.

Spend time with your new cat. In the beginning, visit frequently for brief periods of time. Visiting can mean interacting directly with the new cat in the form of play or petting or quietly reading a book or chatting on the telephone in the same space as your new companion.

Sit on the floor during the cat introduction. You'll seem less threatening to your new baby if you make yourself smaller. Reach your hand toward your cat and allow them to come to you. They will probably sniff you and if they rub their face on you, that's a positive sign. Love them and talk to them so they get to know the sound of your voice and feel of your hands.

Give Them Time to Adjust

Take things at kitty's pace. No matter how much you and your family may want to scoop them up and play, let them decide when they're ready for that and not overwhelm them.

Establish the Structure and Routine You Want for Your New Kitten

It is best to continue to use whatever food and litter your new baby was using at their original home for the first few weeks. After that, you can transition to whatever brand of high-quality kitten food you plan to use.

Establish your daily routine. Feed your kitten at the same time each day that way they should be able to expect predictable times for eating, play, grooming, and for sleeping.

The first month with your new kitten is prime training time. Kitty should learn to play nice since we're not other kittens and don't appreciate the rough play natural to young cats. They need to learn not to bite or scratch, to use their litter box and scratching posts, that being handled by humans is nice and that their carrier is a good safe place to be.





June Pet Holidays

Here are some of the June Pet holidays to celebrate!

Month-Long Celebrations

- Adopt a Cat Month
- Adopt a Shelter Cat Month
- National Foster a Pet Month
- National Micro-chipping Month

Week-Long Celebrations

- June 6 – 12 – Pet Appreciation Week
- June 21 – 25 – Take Your Pet to Work Week

Day Celebrations

- June 19 – National Garfield the Cat Day
- June 21 – National Dog Party Day & Take Your Cat to Work Day
- June 24 – Cat World Domination Day
- June 25 – Take Your Dog to Work Day



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