FELINE BEHAVIOR

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Twin Peaks Veterinary Center
-catvocate
AAFP’s Feline Behavior Guidelines:

- Understanding “normal” behavior
  - Elimination behaviors
  - Social norms / Communication
  - Scratching
  - Feeding

- Behavior vs Medical?

- Resources and Open Forum
Elimination Habits

● Still the #1 reason for relinquishment/ euthanasia
Elimination Habits

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- Clean -- 1-2x/daily
- Fine substrate
  - 4 seconds
- UNSCENTED
- Length = 1.5x length of cat body
- LB# = 1 per cat (social group) + 1
- Multiple locations
  - Private
  - Easy to access
  - Not next to noisy appliances
- Sweater storage boxes, cement mixing tubs, small dog litter pans

Medium Mixing Tub

$6.10
Social
Communication
Communication
Scratching

- Innate behavior
  - Groom the front claws
  - Leave visual and olfactory marks
  - Stretch their muscles!
- Nail care - trimming vs caps
- Proper training
- Proper substrates
  - Horizontal vs Vertical?
  - Fabric? Wool? twine?
Feeding
Behavior? Or Medical?
The Need for Cat Friendly Practices®

The Cat Friendly Practice® program is leading the movement to make veterinary care less stressful for cats and their caregivers.

Established by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) and the International Society for Feline Medicine (ISFM), the Cat Friendly Practice® program is a global initiative designed to elevate care for cats by reducing the stress for the cat, caregiver, and also the entire veterinary team.
1,200+ Designated Cat Friendly Practices® across North America and South America.

Learn More
ALL CATS ARE INTROVERTS

Why I Didn’t Answer When You Called

Francesco Marciuliano

Was in the middle of a project and didn’t want to lose focus

Here, kitty!

Got a good hairball, going here

Needed time to carefully determine how best to respond

Here, kitty kitty kitty!

“Meow”?

“Me-ow”?

“Bark”?

Wanted to wait until it was too late to hang out

I’m going to bed

Sorry, I missed you!

Thank you!