

New Kitty Acclimation and Introductions:

First, CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU for being part of the solution by choosing to adopt. We are grateful, and want to do everything in our power to help make this a smooth and fun transition for you and your new family member.

It takes most cats – even confident well-adjusted cats – 2-3 weeks to settle in to any new environment.

Each cat and kitten is precious to us, and each one has been through some degree of trauma by the time he or she gets to you. Adapting to your home, no matter how wonderful, means abruptly adapting to all new sights, sounds, smells and experiences. You can make this home-coming more fun for everyone with a little effort and patience:

Some tips:

1. **Initially, [length of time varies depending on the kitty], keep your new family member in one safe room.** This room should have litter, food, water, soft bedding, toys, and a place to get up high – a bed, chair, or cat tree for example. Some cats are ready to explore the house in just a few hours, some may take a week! This room may serve as your cat's safe sanctuary well past the time he or she has been fully integrated into the house hold.
2. **Consider using a Feliway plug-in at first,** especially if your new kitty is particularly shy or nervous, or if you are introducing multiple cats. You can purchase this product from your veterinarian or online (See links below)
3. **Every time you go in to visit, have a little bit of enticing canned food, treats, some cat nip, or a toy** so that your presence is always associated with great things. Most cats love to play, especially in an interactive way using simple inexpensive toys like cat dancers, or cat charmers. These are available for just a few dollars at most local pet supply stores and online: (See link below)
4. **Don't expect your new pet and your old pets to experience love at first sight!** Allowing them to hear and smell each other through the door at first is a safe and non-threatening way for everyone to start getting familiar. Gradually move to letting the pets see each other through a partially opened door, or baby gate. When they do, reward them with enticing food, treats, some cat nip, or a toy so that they also associate each other with great things.
5. **Start with supervised time,** once you are ready to let your new kitty have run of the house. Return the newcomer to his/her safe room when you are sleeping or away from home.
6. **Finally, free run for all!** Be sure to have at least one litter box, and one feeding station for each cat in the house. Place them in different parts of your home instead of right next to each other to help avoid tension over important resources. Leave all of those great resources in your new cat's safe room where s/he is used to having them, at least for a few weeks before moving to a new location.
7. **Provide tall, sturdy options for your cat(s) to scratch and climb.** There are excellent choices locally at pet supply stores, and many available for free shipping online through sites like Overstock.com and Amazon.com. New Cat Condos and Molly and Friends are consistently good products for reasonable prices, and get high reviews from customers. (See links below)

8. **The whole process may take a couple of days to a couple of weeks or more,** depending on the individuals.
9. **If at any point you have questions or problems, please call us!** Whether tomorrow, in 2 weeks, 2 months or 2 years, we will work with you any way possible to help keep your new cat in your home. If at any point you can no longer keep this cat, please call us so that we can arrange to have you return the cat directly to us.

HELPFUL CAT RESOURCES:

PRODUCTS:

Happy Cat pheromone plug in diffusers:

http://smile.amazon.com/Comfort-Zone-100512641-Feliway-Diffuser/dp/B00I9SI40S/ref=sr_1_3?s=petsupplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439241364&sr=1-3&keywords=FELIWAY

http://smile.amazon.com/Feliway-Plug--Diffuser-bottle-Milliliters/dp/B000WHUOEI/ref=sr_1_1?s=petsupplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439239559&sr=1-1&keywords=feliway

Cat Charmer Toys:

http://smile.amazon.com/Cat-Dancer-301-Charmer-Interactive/dp/B0002DHV16/ref=sr_1_1?s=petsupplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439239776&sr=1-1&keywords=cat+charmer

Smart Cat Scratching Post:

http://smile.amazon.com/SmartCat-3832-Ultimate-Scratching-Post/dp/B000634MH8/ref=sr_1_sc_1?s=petsupplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439241509&sr=1-1-spell&keywords=smart+cat+scratchign+post

Example of Molly and Friends Cat Tree:

http://smile.amazon.com/Molly-Friends-Sleeper-Handmade-23/dp/B000OSIJ7Y/ref=sr_1_1?s=petsupplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439241565&sr=1-1&keywords=molly+and+friends+cat+tree

Example of (taller) New Cat Condo Cat Tree:

<http://www.overstock.com/Pet-Supplies/New-Cat-Condos-50-Premier-Kitty-Pad-Cat-Tree/8060375/product.html?refccid=4IDBIQGADGHY4E2GINF4NV7POI&searchidx=6&option=11226965>

Jumbo Litter Box [Make sure you get the Jumbo]

<http://www.petco.com/product/126582/So-Phresh-High-Back-Open-Litter-Box.aspx?CoreCat=OnSiteSearch>

Unscented Clumping Cat Litter Delivered to your Door, free if you have Amazon Prime:

http://smile.amazon.com/Precious-Cat-Premium-Clumping-Litter/dp/B0009X29WK/ref=sr_1_1?s=pet-supplies&ie=UTF8&qid=1439242458&sr=1-1&keywords=precious+cat+litter

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

<http://www.fundamentallyfeline.com/> (Check out Ingrid's 'How to' videos and 'Informative articles')

<https://indoorpet.osu.edu/cats> Click on any section of interest for a more in depth look

GREAT CAT SHOW ON ANIMAL PLANET:

My Cat From Hell