

INTRODUCING A NEW CAT OR KITTEN



Keep in mind that the resident cat most likely will view the new cat as an intruder. It may take a month or more before the new cat is accepted by the resident.

Keep the new cat confined to a room with his own food, water bowl, litter box, toys and bed or sleeping spot.

Allow the resident cat full run of the house except for this room.

Let them sniff under the door at each other even if he hisses or growls etc.

Give something the new cat has slept on to the resident cat and vice versa everyday.

After several days to a week, depending on the reaction of the resident cat to the newcomer, let the resident see the new cat by mean of a screen across the doorway or while you are closely supervising the interaction. Give them short periods of contact, slowly increasing the time as they adapt to each other as judged by the various signs of aggression such as hissing, growling, etc.

Give more attention to the resident cat than the newcomer especially in the presence of the new one until the resident cat accepts the newer one completely.

Do not permit actual physical contact until both your resident and new cat seem comfortable with each other.

Do not leave them unsupervised until certain no physical aggression will take place.

Never permit any fighting whatsoever!

Avoid future conflicts after the introduction period by not letting the new addition take over the resident's favorite snoozing spots or toys. Keep feeding/water bowls & litter pans separate until resident cat shows complete acceptance of newcomer.

REMEMBER TO:

1. Always make sure the resident cat is healthy & current on vaccinations.
2. Be sure new cat has been tested for Feline Leukemia and Aids before bringing him or her into the household.

THE KEY TO SUCCESS IS TO GO SLOWLY!