

Meeting Your Cats Needs

Setting Them up for Success



Cats thrive when their environment supports their natural instincts. Providing the right setup reduces stress, prevents behavior issues, and helps your cat feel safe and confident in your home.

Safe Spaces

Provide:

- Covered beds, boxes or cat caves
- Vertical spaces (cat trees or shelves)
- Quiet areas away from household activity

A cat that can hide feels more secure and often becomes more social over time.



Multiple, Separated Resources

Provide:

- Litter boxes: 1 per cat + 1 extra
- Food & water: Multiple stations
- Keep separate (no food next to litter)

This reduces competition, stress and inappropriate behaviors like housesoiling or guarding.

Enrichment: Prevent Boredom

Offer daily enrichment:

- Scratching posts (vertical and horizontal)
- Window perches or bird-watching spots
- Puzzle feeders or treat toys
- Rotating toys to keep things “new”
- Play with your cat(s) at least twice daily

Enrichment reduces anxiety, destructive behavior, and overgrooming.

Predatory Play: Safely!

Best practices:

- Use wand toys to mimic prey (birds, mice)
- Let your cat stalk → chase → pounce → “catch”
- End play sessions with a small meal or treat

This satisfies natural instincts and can prevent biting, nighttime zoomies and frustration.

Routine and Predictability

Keep consistent:

- Feeding times
- Play sessions
- Daily interactions



Routine lowers stress and helps your cat adjust more quickly to your home.

Respect your Cat's Comfort Level

Watch for signs of stress:

- Hiding, hissing, swatting
- Decreased appetite
- Avoidance



What to do:

- Give space—don't force interaction
- Let the cat approach you
- Reward brave behavior with treats or play