



Keep your Indoor Cat Happy

Play with your indoor cat every day. Research shows play and socialization help prevent behaviour problems that can sometimes develop in in-door cats only.

Provide stable scratching posts in areas cats like to spend time.

If your cat can benefit from catnip, sprinkle some on the scratching post to encourage her to investigate.

Please do not de-claw your cat. De-clawing is a painful procedure that actually amputates part of the cat's toe. Often, de-clawed cats will develop negative behaviours such as inappropriate elimination and biting.

Cats enjoy lounging near a window to absorb the sunlight while watching the outdoors. Place your cat tree near a window or allow your cat to lie on the back of any furniture near the window.

If your cat is a window gazer, consider placing a bird feeder near the window so he can watch the birds. Just make sure it is high enough – to be out of the range of any outdoor cats.

Provide your cat with toys that appeal to the hunter in her. Some suggestions include: balls, bells, toys on strings, balls of paper, and puzzle boxes. Hide treats around the house – and show your cat where to find them.

Consider adding a second cat to your household to provide your existing cat with company. Be sure to introduce your new cat properly – so do your homework. Go to the BC SPCA's web site at spca.bc.ca and see if they still have their information online about this very subject.

Plant a little pot of cat grass or alfalfa for your cat to munch on.

And finally, this goes without saying...but clean the litter box every single day (even when you don't want to). Avoid covered litter boxes, if you can.



Signs of an Unhappy Cat:

- ❖ Urination/defecation in your home
- ❖ Bites or is aggressive
- ❖ Excessive grooming and/or pulling out fur
- ❖ Constant and noisy meowing
- ❖ Meows at door – but does not use door when opened for her
- ❖ Sleeping and/or hiding
- ❖ Obese or too thin
- ❖ Dramatic increase or decrease in eating habits