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Pampering Your Favorite Cat In Style

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Pampering Your Favorite Cat In Style

Curious Cats - Five Ways to Keep Them Entertained and Pampered

There are five ways cat owners have learned to keep their cats entertained.

1. Catnip is an all-natural herb. You can buy it at any pet store, herbal store, or even a plant store. It belongs to the mint plant family. Cats react to this herb through their olfactory glands. When a cat smells catnip, they go absolutely nuts!! They start sniffing things, trying to chew the plant or stuffed toy, jumping around, sliding across the floor, and just start acting like a fool. They love the feeling that comes with the catnip and you will get a kick out of watching them make a fool of themselves.

It will truly be an entertaining experience. Now comes some scientific bad news. Catnip does not work on all cats. It has to do with cat genetics. Some cats are genetically immune to the effects of catnip. Some cats are genetically not immune. On average about seventy to eighty percent of cats will entertain themselves and you when they are exposed to catnip. Also cats younger than 3 months or older than 8 years usually do not react to catnip. Kittens' olfactory glands have not yet developed enough to be affected, and senior cats' olfactory glands have ceased to function after a certain point. They can still smell, but the chemical reaction that causes them to get "high" no longer affects them.

2. Laser pointers. Laser pointers are an inexpensive way to keep you and your cat entertained for hours. You can buy a laser pointer at just about any toy store or electronics store. Just bring it home and let the fun begin. She will chase that laser across the floor, into other rooms, up the wall, outside, into the dryer, around the corner, under the bed, and just about anywhere you point it.

Try not to point it at other people (unless you really don't like that person), on furniture, or anything you don't want your feline companion to accidentally scratch or knock over. This can keep you and your cat entertained for hours, not to mention it is good exercise for your cat and good laughs for you.

3. Pet grass. This is one of the most overlooked options that pet owners completely miss. Pet grass is just a patch of specially designed grass for your pet to play in. Most people don't realize that grass is a natural part of most animals' diets. It aids in digestion, constipation, nausea, and other digestive problems. Your cat (or dog) instinctively knows this and eats it when necessary. Aside from being a good health supplement, it can also be a fun thing for your cat. Cats can tend to have an over active imagination.

Their little patch of pet grass can be anything they want. To them, it can be a jungle or a green toy that moves when she runs her paws through it. Occasionally your pet grass will get a bug or two in it. This is perfectly ok. It's grass. Grass gets bugs. Bugs can be hours of entertainment. Your cat loves chasing and tormenting them, and you enjoy watching them chase and torment the poor bugs.

4. Homemade toys. You can go to the store and buy your cat a fifty-dollar pet toy. You can fork out the money and buy the top of the line pet toys. Your cat will then ironically have a cruel sense of humor. She may annoy you by ignoring the expensive gift because she is more interested in the packaging it came in. It makes crinkling noises and slides on the floor. She will entertain herself for a good while with, not the toys, but the package it came in.

After doing this a few times, you will probably stop buying the expensive toys and get creative at home making stuff. Two things that cats go nuts over will give you a solid example: throw a balled up piece of aluminum foil at your cat. She will chase it all over. Fill a sock up with a few pieces of catnip and tie it off. Throw it to your cat and watch her go nuts!

5. Give into their demands. If all else fails, give into the purring and meowing and pet your cat. Sounds simple, but she can be content for hours just sitting in your lap. When she has had enough of you, she will politely excuse herself.

Five Easy Steps to Bond With Your Cat Through Pampering

You finally brought home your perfect new little feline companion and she has taken one look around the apartment and seems to like what she sees. What is there not to like? You have bought her a self cleaning litter box, porcelain food and water dishes, a warm and snuggly kitty bed, high quality food and even some canned cat food, and most importantly, you allow her to jump up onto the couch and bed! Your kitty has just landed in kitty heaven. Yet you wonder what you could do to bond even more with your little feline addition to the family. Follow these five easy steps to bond with your cat through pampering and success will be assured!

First and foremost, do not expect too much when you first bring home the cat. Do not overwhelm her with demands of attention or try to hold her against her will. Instead, when you first bring her home, make sure you have a small room prepared for her. This room should contain her litter box, a food dish, and a water dish. Additionally, have something the cat can use to hide in or under, such as a box with a couple of holes cut into it.

Once you bring the cat into the room, simply close the door to the room and open the door to the carrier. Do not pull out the cat from the box or carrier you used to bring her home! Allow her the space and time to come out and check out her new environment when she is good and ready. Similarly, this is not the time to force introductions to other cats, dogs, or even small children. Pamper her by giving her space and time to adjust to her new surroundings.

Secondly, bring her gifts! While food itself is not a gift, a special treat of shrimp or tuna most certainly is. Bring a very small portion to your new cat and speak to her in a very calm and reassuring voice. Once she comes out of hiding to eat the treat you brought, don't try to grab her. Instead simply keep talking to her. If she comes up to you, very lightly pet her back or scratch behind her ears.

Third, one of the cat's favorite modes of being pampered is the receipt of little toys. A toy can be anything from a sock tied to a string, to a toilet paper cardboard roll. Store-bought toys are nice, too! Cats love to chase after something, so the little balls attached to fishing pole like toys

are always a hit. Another favorite are the catnip mice that are readily available at pet shops everywhere.

A fourth tip is one that is practical as well. Groom her! Get a soft bristle brush and gently brush her back as she walks past you. She will most likely come back for more. This is a great time to groom her, talk to her, brush her, and let her know that you care for her. She will feel comforted by the sound of your voice and look forward to your grooming sessions. Additionally, she will feel confident to come closer to you than she might have felt before.

Fifth is really a common sense approach to cat companionship: make the time it takes to bond, interact, and explore together! Many of those who add cats to their households believe that because cats are so independent, it is not necessary to spend a lot of time with them. Nothing could be further from the truth! As a matter of fact, cats may begin acting out if left alone for too long. Additionally, they may get quite lonely and any bonding process that you successfully started may very well be hindered by long absences.

Therefore, be sure to carve enough time out of your busy schedule every day to spend it with your feline companion. As you can see, it does not take a lot of pampering to bond with your cat, a little of the right kind of pampering indeed does go a long way. Furthermore, your cat will eagerly come to look forward the time you will be spending together, so don't think of it as a chore but as a joy!

Herbal Products to Pamper Your Kitty

Many cat owners are choosing to pamper their furry, feline friends with natural, holistic herbal products rather than conventional veterinary medicine. The herbal philosophy holds that a natural diet and lifestyle are the best foundation for the maximum healthy and longevity for pets. Herbal products are being used to treat and prevent health issues targeting pets. Holistic treatment uses natural products from our environment rather than man-made medicines and the results from pet owners have been favorable.

Pampering herbal products are dispensed in liquid or powder forms. Pet owners can mix the product with food, dispense through a dropper syringe, or mix it with water. It seems there is an herbal product for any ailment or chronic condition your cat may have. Herbal products are also available and used as vitamins to promote general health for certain systems. From dental care to constipation relief, the holistic veterinary practice of medicine has thought of an herbal relief product for your kitty.

For cats with allergies, an allergy relief herbal product will strengthen and support your cat's body to better deal with symptoms of allergy. A calming herbal product is available for the many cats who become anxious in the face of high-tension events such as going to the veterinarian, groomer, or traveling by car or plane. To keep your feline's eye health at its optimum, a vision herbal product is at hand. Dental care herbs will keep your cat's teeth and gums clean.

To detoxify your cat's system, an herbal purifier will enhance the overall health of your cat. Relieve your cat's diarrhea and soft stool predicament with a diarrhea relief herbal product. For cats with upset stomachs and weak digestive systems, pamper your kitty with some digestive relief herbal products.

Cats with gas can be miserable. Gas relief herbal products will improve their digestion, relieve inflammation of their digestive system, and improve their intestinal movements. This should relieve the pain and pressure of gas. If your kitty has been injured or put through a traumatic event, an injury relief product is accessible.

Cats with pulled muscles, broken limbs, or those recovering from a surgery will benefit greatly and bounce back quickly. Itch relief will improve the overall skin health of your kitty. Skin and coat products will maintain coat health and prevent shedding of your kitty. If your cat has joint pain and inflammation as well as problems with circulation, joint relief in the form of an herbal product is obtainable.

Does your cat get sick in the car? Relieve nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea associated with motion sickness with motion sickness relief. Kill parasitic worms and strengthen your cat's digestive system against future outbreaks with a parasite relief herbal product. If your cat is constipated, a bowel relief herb will relieve constipation and help your kitty have normal bowel movements. Echinacea in herbal form will stimulate your cat's immune system and is designed to help fight infection.

If your cat has been diagnosed with cancer, an herbal product may help reduce the growth of tumors, purify blood, and carry destroyed tissue. This may help strengthen your cat's system so normal cells can destroy abnormal ones. A homeopathic remedy to help relieve pain, itching, and swelling from bug bites and stings such as fleas, wasps, spiders, ants, mosquitoes, horseflies, and bees is also accessible.

For older kitties, rejuvenation is accessible through an herbal tonic that will improve their appetite, digestion, and immune system. Strengthen your cat's respiratory system and lungs with pampering herbal products. If your cat is sluggish in attitude a thyroid booster may be the answer. This herbal product will improve their hair coats and aid with weight issues. A calming thyroid product will help calm your hyper cat.

An overweight cat is an unhealthy cat. To keep your kitty slim, try an herbal product that will aid digestion and help with weight loss. To keep your cat's urinary system in top condition, a urinary herbal product will keep the overall health of that system in check. Liver disorders can be aided with a liver herbal product. Hairballs can be treated with laxatives and holistic herbs for constipation.

To learn more about pampering herbal products for cats, consult a holistic veterinarian for more information.

Kitty Carriers – The Latest in Luxurious Accommodations While Traveling

Take your pet along in style. Now you can choose from many different traveling kitty carriers for your traveling convenience.

One type of cat carrier comes in two different sizes. It is a tubular shaped carrying case that is made from liquid-proof heavy-duty fabric. One model contains a cushioned flat bottom that serves as a soft place for your cat to stay in while riding in an automobile. This type of carrier is more versatile because it adapts more to the shape of your pet than the regular square plastic or metal pet carriers. It has a convenient carrying handle for easy transport to and from the car.

Another one of the latest models of pet carriers is the type that you can carry with you on bike rides, mountain trails, scooter or motorbike. This carrier is well ventilated, and roomy enough for a small to average sized cat to enjoy the effects of movement from an outdoor trip. Cats like this movement, which is very similar to the effect of a child who likes car rides. This unit attaches to the back of a human just like a backpack.

For this type of carrier is usually a rain cover. This will ensure that your cat stays dry on the trip. You know how most cats hate water. This will carry cats up to 13 pounds.

Other types of pet carrier include the trendily decorated carriers that come in a variety of colors, often with an emblem on them. For example, you can get a bright red pet carrier that looks just like a purse with two handles for easy toting. One model of this type has a skull and crossbones design imprinted on it. Others of this come in colors such bright blue, and hot pink or bright green, with various emblems imprinted on them such as a horseshoe or other object for a decorative theme. Each of these pet carriers comes with a nametag, in case of loss.

There are many, many other purse-like pet carrier designs to choose from, some sitting upright, and others sitting sideways, and made out of a variety of materials. Some are constructed from leather, while others are made from softer fabrics, or imitation animal materials.

Another type of pet carrier in which to use is the carrier type that also acts as a play tube. This combo can keep your feline pet occupied, especially on longer trips. It has a carrying handling similar to the tubular carrier mentioned and an opening on the front for the cat to climb out when allowed.

Another type of carrier is the compact plastic type that is lightweight and ventilated enough to carry a pet for miles. This type is long lasting, and will take your pet anywhere you go.

You have an idea now of the latest models of kitty carriers. You have a wide selection to choose from, and you are apt to find one that fits your needs. You also have many sizes and shapes to choose from, and they often are manufactured from a variety of materials.

Some of the materials that pet carriers are made from are heavy-duty waterproof fabrics such as nylon, or durable materials such as plastic, or a form of aluminum or steel. These materials provide for varying degrees of comfort and convenience for you to take your pet along with you anywhere you go. Some even come with toys and other accessories which keep your pet

occupied during long trips.

With the hundreds of different types of pet carriers available to you for short and long distance travel, you are sure to find one that is appropriate for your use. You can also be certain that you will find one that will help your pet feel comfortable during travel.

Feel free to look around here and search for more information regarding cat carriers and other accessories for your feline pet. You have access to a world of resources available to you regarding the use of pet carriers. This information can help you make an educated decision upon purchasing the right one for your pet.

Take advantage of all the free information right at your fingertips, and often only one or two clicks away. You and your cat will be grateful you did.

Kitty Comforts – The Products You Should Never Be Without

If you are contemplating adopting or bringing home a new kitten, there are an assortment of items you should consider purchasing before the long-awaited arrival of your cat into your home.

Cat Carrier - You will need a carrier for your kitten(s) to collect them with and throughout their lives, they will have to travel to the vets for boosters and possibly treatment. While it is possible to obtain carriers made of cardboard or wicker, these are not sturdy and are difficult to clean. Ideally, a top opening plastic or wire carrier is recommended. In the event of a visit to the vets the top opening carrier will make access to your cat much easier and less stressful.

Food and water bowls - You can use either ceramic or stainless steel bowls for food and water. It is worth having several sets so that you put out fresh dishes at each mealtime even if you have no time to stop and wash up.

Place Mats - These are not a necessity, however you might find them a bit of a godsend!

Food - You will be provided with a diet sheet when you collect your kitten(s). Try to stick to the same diet for at least two to three weeks whilst your kitten settles into its new home. If you want to change its food then do so gradually, mixing a teaspoon of the new food in with what it's used to and gradually increase the amount, if there are no upset tummys the following day!

Litter Tray - There are endless varieties of litter trays available and the choice can be confusing. Hooded trays can be good if you have a shy cat and will also stop the litter from going all over the floor and will help to omit smells! All our cats/kittens use hooded trays with a cat flap on the front, if you want to change, do so when your kitten has settled in and knows exactly where its toilet is.

Litter - Like Litter trays, there are various types of litter on the market. All our cats/kittens use Worlds Best Cat Litter or Sainsbury's Ultra Clumping. If you wish to change, wait until their

litter habits are well established and introduce a little of the new litter into their existing, gradually changing over to all new.

Bed/Bedding - It is entirely up to you whether or not you buy one. Your kitten will find lots of places to sleep such as your bed, the sofa, the newly washed pile of laundry and if you do buy a bed, your kitten may never choose to use it! Most kittens/cats though will use a bed. Beds with heat reflective material are especially well received. Make sure it is machine washable!

Scratching Posts and Toys - These are designed to give your cat a place to stretch (so don't get a short one) and to keep his claws in good condition. Try to look for one with a dense carpet and/or coiled ropes as these provide real resistance and help to keep your cats claws in good shape. The larger ones come as activity centers and usually incorporate a bed and tunnels to play in. Toys with bells are also popular. Like babies, cats love packaging more than the gift inside so use old paper grocery bags, bottle caps, or plastic bottle caps as comfort items for hours of enjoyment.

Flea Control – Shampoos, sprays and special collars are available to keep fleas at bay. Ultrasonic plug-ins will emit waves and repel fleas in your cat's living area. If your cat is an indoor variety, this shouldn't be a threat. Collars – Get a breakaway or elasticized collar. These types will keep your kitty from strangling herself.

Grooming Supplies – No matter the length of your cat's hair, a good grooming brush will always come in handy. Keep your pet neat and clean with daily grooming.

Catnip & Treats – Purchase catnip-marinated toys from your local pet store or start some from seed. Your pet will love you for it.

Kitty Condos - Why Should a Cat Have Her Own Place in Your Home?

Cats love to do many things, but there are 2 things cats like to do more than anything else. They love to scratch and they love to sleep. That is why a kitty condo is the best option for any pet owner. Cats love to scratch anything that reaches higher than them and won't move when they touch it.

Couches, chairs, and beds are prime targets for your cat's razor sharp claws. Cats also love to sleep. On average cats sleep about 16 hours a day. They spend about 2 hours a day scratching and the rest of the day annoying someone to pet them and caress them and feed them and just about anything else your cat has talked you into doing by looking at you and purring.

You spent a lot of money on couches, sofas, chairs, curtains, beds, rugs, and carpets, or even if you didn't, they still cost a good chunk of change to repair or replace. From your cats' point of view, your furniture is THEIRS! If you are ok with that, you may stop reading here; you have officially become your cats' indentured servant.

Good luck with that life of servitude. There is an expression that every cat owner will agree to: "Dogs have masters, cats have staff". If you are part of the staff, then your entire house is a kitty condo and this article serves no purpose. If you are the master just letting your cat think she has a staff, (lets face it, those are the only 2 options!) then lets continue.

Now if you agree that a cat does not need to be scratching your stuff, then you need to buy your little feline a kitty condo. Once bought, don't expect her to just jump on and know what to do. The first thing she is going to do is look at it and then look at you with a "What the heck is that, and why are you looking at me like that?" look on her face. You are going to need to encourage her to use it; otherwise you just spent fifty to a hundred dollars on carpeted corner art. WOW!

There are a few things that you need to make sure your kitty condo has before bringing it home to display as art...I mean to give to your cat. It should have at least one scratching post, a cat perch, a cat bed, and a cat tree (A.K.A. a kitty condo). Scratching posts are probably the most important part of the whole deal. Cats NEED to scratch. This is how they keep their nails trimmed and healthy. They also get their exercise this way. Make sure it accommodates the amount and activity level of your cats.

You don't need to spend a fortune on kitty condos with special beds in them. If you let your cat talk you into it, you could be spending well over a hundred bucks on a kitty condo that does not serve the needs of your cat. Remember, regardless of what your cat may tell you, YOU are the master. Try not to forget that.

A cat needs a bed that is private, clean, and quiet. Old blankets, pillows and towels work great. These things seem to be where they tend to sleep even if you buy the most expensive cat bed. They will be just as happy with this as they would a silk lined bed stuffed with Egyptian cotton.

Cats also LOVE perches. They love to be up high looking at everything around them. Some cat perches are designed to be placed on a windowsill so that your cat can look out of a window. This is something that cats love to do.

Kitty condos come in all shapes, sizes, colors, designs, and layouts that should meet the approval of your cat. They are usually carpeted and give your cat several levels for lots of enjoyment. It provides the perfect place for you cat to scratch, sleep, and perch from high on her throne. Every kitty needs a kitty condo.

Most will serve the purpose of a throne as well, and what kitty queen is not happy with a throne? But just keep one thing in mind; if you spend more on your cats' condo than you did on yours, you need to rethink you and your cats' relationship. You should not be part of the staff. That's what the dog is for!

Meowingly Good Massages for Cats

A relaxing massage is such an orgasmic indulgence. Each muscle worked over, rubbed down, and kneaded. Every ache seems to just go away, rubbed out of existence by your talented

massage therapist. Massages are not only relaxing, but also very healthy. Relaxation is important to your over all health.

They also will reduce stress, strengthen the immune system, promotes circulation, and emotional wellbeing. Not to mention, it just feels wonderful, and you feel just as great once it is over. If you think you feel good after a massage, imagine how your cat will feel. After all, cats love the good rubbings and loved to be stroked. Not to mention, it has just as many health benefits for them as it does for us.

Massaging your cat is good therapy for both of you. You and your cat will find it soothing and relaxing. Massaging your cat also makes you both closer together, and allows you to easily bond with your cat. In multiple cat households this can give personalized attention to each cat separately.

Petting, touching, stroking, and massaging helps bring down your cats blood pressure and increases their blood circulation. This is great for your cat's immune system and over all health. This also keeps you current with your cat's skin and hair. If there are any skin issues or lumps they will be easily detected and treated early. And, by the time you are through massaging, stroking, rubbing, petting, and pampering, you can make any cat a friend for life!

Start by scratching behind her ear and you will have her undivided attention. She will stop whatever she is doing, and command that you continue. Indulge her demands and continue on with the massage. Rub her entire ear including inside of the tip. Scratch the top of her head between his ears. By now she should be purring purrs of utter delight. This is a very good sign.

Now move on to her other ear. Just like before, rub her entire ear including inside of the tip. Scratch and caress the side of her face, below the whiskers. Her whiskers are sensitive, so be careful around them. Now scratch under her chin. Most cats absolutely love to have this part of their bodies scratched and loved on. She will be happy to stay around as long as you keep touching her right.

Scratch the other side of her face. Scratch her ears again, just a little. Scratch the top of her head. In a continuous and fluid motion, stroke from the top of his head down his entire back. Scratch down her back several times with your hand wide open to spread across her entire backside. Scratch down her entire back and down the top end of her tail several times.

Stroke her entire tail with your hand all the way around it several times. She is in heaven by this point she is like putty in your hands! Lay her down, if she has not already done it for you so that she is offering herself to you completely. Take one leg at a time and stroke it from her shoulder to her paw. Stroke each leg several times. Stroke anywhere else she will allow except her tummy, as this is usually seen as an invitation to play, which would defeat the entire purpose of the massage.

You cat should be very relaxed, happy, and purring like crazy now. Make this exercise take as long as you want. Cats can be patient when it suits their needs, so I doubt she will want to be going anywhere at this point. She is in kitty heaven and she loves it. You can take as long as you want and she is going to sit there and take it.

She is getting all the attention she can stand, and her kitty body is feeling all nice and massaged. You have made a friend for life. She is in heaven and she has a new found respect for you. She now has a masseuse on staff! She loves being the queen. Be prepared for the fact that she will now demand this attention on a regular basis. Good luck!

Pamper Your Cat - Cook for Them!

If you really want your cat to feel pampered, consider cooking for her. I know what you are thinking: "COOK? Who cooks for their CAT?" Well in all actuality, cooking for pets is a common practice that has many benefits. Home cooked food is fresher, healthier, and tastier than store bought food. Not to mention, it will also extend the life of your cat by five to ten years.

There are a few things to keep in mind when cooking for your cat. Your cat has special dietary needs. She needs five times the amount of sodium and protein as a dog needs; so don't feed her dog food. It just won't do. Also you should avoid chocolate, alcohol, and pork of any kind, onions, raw fish, and raw eggs. These can tear up your cats' stomach. Here are a few recipes that you can try on your cat:

Fishy Kitty Treats

Ingredients:

- 7 ounces mashed sardines
- 1/4 cup dry non-fat milk
- 1/2 cup wheat germ

Directions:

Mix ingredients. Roll into 24 small balls and place on greased cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork. Bake at 350 degrees until brown.

This recipe for Cat Cookies serves/makes 24.

Senior Kitty Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 bouillon cube (chicken or veggie)
- Chicken - boned and shredded
- Grated cheese
- 1/2 cup water

Directions:

Pour 1/2 cup warm water over bullion cube and stir to dissolve. Add shredded chicken to water mixture just enough to form soupy consistency. Sprinkle with grated cheese.

Meaty Morsels

Ingredients:

- 1/2 pound ground beef or turkey
- 1 small carrot -- finely grated
- 1 tablespoon cheese -- grated
- 1 teaspoon brewer's yeast
- 1 teaspoon dried catnip
- 1/2 cup whole wheat bread crumbs
- 1 egg -- beaten
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine the meat, carrot, cheese, brewer's yeast, catnip and breadcrumbs in a bowl. Add the egg and tomato paste and mix well. Using your hands, roll the mixture into walnut - sized meatballs and place on a lightly greased cookie sheet. Bake for about 15 minutes until the meatballs are brown and firm. Cool the meatballs completely and store them in an airtight container in the refrigerator. These freeze well.

Kitty Kookies

- 1-cup whole-wheat flour
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 1/2 cup soy flour
- 1/2 cup wheat germ
- 1/2 cup dried catnip
- 1/4 cup canned tuna (water packed) -- well drained
- 1/2 cup juice from drained tuna -- Add water if needed
- 1/2 cup corn oil
- 1 egg -- lightly whisked

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a large bowl, combine dry ingredients and mix. Then add remaining ingredients and stir to form stiff dough. If the dough seems too sticky, add a little more whole-wheat flour. Make dough into a ball shape and place on wax paper. Roll out to 1/4 to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into shapes with animal shaped cookie cutters, if desired. Re-roll and cut more cookies until scraps are used. Bake on an un-greased cookie sheet for about 25 minutes. Store in a plastic bag, tightly wrapped, in the refrigerator.

Sacura's Biscuit Mix

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups whole-wheat flour
- 1/2 cup powdered skim milk

- 1-teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 egg - beaten

Flavoring: Meat drippings, or broth (enough to make stiff dough).

Directions:

Combine flour, powdered milk and garlic powder in a medium sized bowl. Add beaten egg, flavoring and mix well with hands. Dough should be very stiff. If necessary, add more flavoring. On a well floured surface; roll out dough to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut with shaped cookie cutters of your choice. Place biscuits on cookie sheets and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Store in a cookie jar or treat jar.

You can search the Internet or visit your local bookstore to get more recipes. There are hundreds of recipes for cat treats. There are cookbooks dedicated to making pet treats. Just do a little research and you will find anything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask about home cooking for your cat. You will need to experiment with your cat to find what she likes and doesn't like. Once you find a few she does, she will look forward to getting those treats.

Pamper Your Cat with a Padded Perch

Ever notice your cat sitting on or near a window? This is because even cats that stay in the house most of the time like to see outside. Therefore, you may as well make the feline pet feel as comfortable as possible. Just think of a padded perch for your feline pet as the cat's own personal recliner center and/or a place to scratch and climb, depending upon the particular style of the perch.

One padded perch is made out of carpet stuffed with one inch thick foam for extra comfort. This perch adjusts to attach to most windows without tools it comes in a variety of colors such as red, yellow, green, and purple. This allows the cat to lounge around while enjoying the outside view through the window. This padded perch comes in a large size and a small size for different size cats, and to fit on different sized window areas.

Another type of padded window perch for cats is the one that attaches to the wall with Velcro. Most models can come with or without heating capabilities, and can hold up to 40 pounds of weight. The heated models will usually heat the pad usually 12 to 15 degrees warmer than the average temperature in the room. The inside of this perch contains an extremely soft layer of orthopedic foam, and the outside has the look and feel of faux (imitation) lambs wool.

The heating unit of the padded perch can be plugged into any outlet, and unplugged during the summer months. It acts a similar way that an electric blanket would keep a human warm.

Some padded perches for cats not only provide comfort, but also a part of a scratching post. The cat can scratch on the post all he or she wants, but still climb up inside and sleep on the comfortable bed. These perches also come in several roomy sizes. You would be able to find one that is perfect for the size of your feline friend.

One variation of the padded perch and bed combo is the kind that has a 27" loft perch and also includes a bed. It is often made out of cedar, which is a wood that deters insects. This bed and perch combo can be set in an indoor or outdoor hallway, stairs, basement, garage, or any other room in the house. It is small enough that it can fit in most tight spots, yet roomy enough for an average sized house cat.

Treat your cat the way you would want to be treated, and make sure he or she has a comfortable perch to lie upon. Also, make sure that the window that the perch is attached to is well insulated so the cat does not catch a cold or get sick from a cold draft.

Other variations of perches on a stand are padded with carpet, and are climbable, for hours, and hours of feline fun. In most of these models there is often a place to sleep provide for the cat as well. Also, some perching models come with dangling toys attached for additional fun for the cat.

Furthermore, some of the perching models that include scratching posts and dangling cat toys provide entertainment for the pet owner, as well as the pet owner's family and friends. These create happy memories for one to cherish for a lifetime.

Yet another type of padded cat perch is the two-story hiding perch and combo scratching perch. This perch has a padded upper and lower floor, and provides two places for the cat to rest, as well as carpeted material for the cat to climb upon.

Cats are sometimes just as sensitive as humans, and like to be comfortable. Pamper your cat with one of a variety of padded perches, and combination padded perches and scratching post.

Feel free to browse here or to one of the related links to find further information about padded perches and scratching posts for your pet.

Your cat will appreciate the fun, and you will enjoy your pet not scratching your furniture, or shedding hair on it.

Find a padded perch that is right for your cat today, by browsing the many online pet shopping sites that offer free information for you to take advantage of. You, your whole family, and especially your cat will appreciate it.

Pamper Your Cat With the Best in Kitty Kibble

Do you want to give your cat the very best quality of life possible? A well cared for pet can live many years beyond the average lifespan if fed and cared for properly. If you want to ensure the best health for your cat, the best way to do this is to guard their diet carefully. Pamper your cat with the best in kitty kibble. Avoid greasy table scraps, and make sure your feline friend gets plenty of exercise.

With so many kitty kibble brands and treats on the market, it can be confusing deciding which is best for your cat. Here are a few things you should look for when shopping for your kitty

kibble, as well as advice on how to feed your cat.

1. Examine the protein content in the kibble. This is the number one indicator as to the quality of kitty kibble. Does the kitty kibble use high-quality animal sources, or is its protein derived mainly from substitutes like plant materials? Cats are naturally carnivores, and they crave protein from high-quality animal sources like lamb and chicken.

2. Look at the fiber content in the kibble. Although fiber in itself is not bad, too much of it can indicate a lower-quality kibble. Fibrous sources and materials are often used as "filler" ingredients in the lowest quality cat kibble. Very high levels of fiber are not particularly healthy for your cat, either. High levels of fiber have been linked to a lowered immune response and allergic reactions.

3. Avoid artificial preservatives. With the amount of high-quality kibble available today on the market, there's no reason why you should settle for a kibble that is loaded with artificial preservatives. Check the label carefully. Many kibbles add artificial preservatives to preserve the fats and oils in the kibble. You should also avoid kibble that lists artificial flavoring in their ingredient list, especially BHT, BHA, and Ethoxyquin, which have been linked to cancer and liver diseases in cats.

4. Look for kitty kibble rich in whole foods, such as vegetables and whole grains like barley and brown rice. Your cat needs the nutrients provided by fresh vegetables and whole grains. Avoid kibble that lists some type of 'meal' at the tops of their ingredients list, as in 'corn meal' or 'soy meal.' Kibbles who rely on miscellaneous meals probably indicate a lower quality kibble, as many meals simply consist mainly of filler ingredients.

5. Look for high quality oils such as fish oil or flaxseed oil. Like all creatures, cats need to consume fats, but you should actively avoid kibbles that don't list their source of animal fats.

6. A good rule of thumb: Avoid kibbles that list several ingredients that you do not recognize. When looking for the best kibble, always examine the ingredients list. If the ingredients list is loaded with ingredients you have never heard of or cannot pronounce it's best to move on. Chances are the kibble is loaded with chemicals, artificial preservatives, and inexpensive flavoring ingredients.

7. Don't just choose the most expensive kibble on the market, expecting quality. While it's true that kibble that uses high quality ingredients is generally more expensive than lower quality brands, you should not simply choose the most expensive kibble you can find. When choosing kitty kibble, you should take into consideration your cat's life stage, age, activity level, special dietary concerns, and their own expressed preferences. Take the time to study the ingredients list—your cat will thank you!

8. Strive to feed your cat at roughly the same time everyday. Cats, more than dogs, are very much creatures of habit. Your cat will feel happy and content knowing exactly when her next feeding is on its way. Feeding your cat every day will also help put your cat on a schedule that will help regulate her digestive system.

9. Feed your cat dry kibble on a regular basis. Cats are notoriously picky eaters, so you may

be tempted to feed your cat a moist diet. But snacking on dry, crunchy food like kitty kibble will keep your cat's teeth healthy and clean, and is often much easier on their digestive system. If you need to change your cat's diet or switch kibble brands, do so gradually, mixing in a bit of the new food with her old food until the switch has been made completely.

Pamper Your Cat With the Hottest Styles in Collars

Your pet is a part of you, and when you pamper your pet, you are really pampering yourself. You can take your cat out in style, decorating him or her with one of a variety of stylish collars. Some of these styles are just for decoration alone, though, but also for safety, as well as to help you keep time.

It is important to differentiate between a safety collar, and a collar just for decoration. However, be assured that even the more practical collars (to keep your animal near you, and for keeping track of time while on the road) come in up to date styles that would make your pet look very attractive.

One of the hottest styles of cat collars today is the personalized rhinestone slide letter and charm collar. These collars are meant for decoration purposes only, especially if your cat already wears a safety collar.

You can choose initials, names, or small phrases to add to the collar. Furthermore, you can get a matching bracelet for yourself, which would most likely be the extra small size. The best slider letter bracelets to buy are slider charms that are coated with Rhodium and contain genuine Swarovski crystals, and the clasps of the collars have tiny rhinestones embedded in them.

The collars themselves often come in various colors such as light blue, light pink, black, red or other color, and the stones come in various colors such as sapphire, pink, lilac, pearl, or other colors. Besides getting rhinestone letters attached, you can also get various shapes, such as a heart, star, cat paw, or cat face shaped emblems. You can find a rhinestone slide letter collar that fits right for your pet, and you can even order them over the internet. Just use your web browser and you can access them very easily.

Another type of collar is similar to the one above, except that it is designed more to be a safety collar, and not just an ordinary jewelry collar. Each of these collars is decorated with a small colored rhinestone pattern with color schemes including baby pink, emerald, purple, red, green or other colors. In addition, each of these collars contains at least one D-Ring to use to add a leash or for adding charms. These collars come in sizes from extra small to 4 extra large. These safety collars are just as fashionable as the ones merely for decoration, but serve to keep your animal protected and near you.

Another type of collar for pets has a dual purpose. It is the one that tells time. These are collars that come in a similar design as a human leather watch. Some of these collars have digital time watches on them, while others have the classic decorative face clock watches on them. You can walk your pet and keep track of the time all in one, so you have no excuse for being late anywhere, even if you yourself do not like to wear a watch.

Furthermore, this is a very sophisticated looking collar, and it will allow you to present your animal anywhere in luxury and style.

If you are a pet owner that does not mind wearing watches, you are most likely to find a matching bracelet or "collar" that would fit you as well. You and your cat will be noticed, and everyone would know that you and your pet will belong together.

Most designs of collars with the watch also come with a lead leash to attach to the ring of the collar (of course most people do not walk cats, but it is possible). This collar ring would be big enough to add a nametag onto, which is recommended for most pets, including cats. This helps for the cat to be returned to you if it is lost.

The above examples of pet collars are only a few of the ways you can pamper your cat by helping him or her look her best. Feel free to browse through all the types of collars for your cat. Some close with a buckle, while others glide shut, and yet others snap. Many of them adjust to fit your cat as it grows from a kitten to an adult. Furthermore, most collars have places to add decorative charms made out of a variety of materials.

With hundreds of stylish collars to choose from, you are sure to find one that is right for you and your cat. If you do not find what you are looking for, feel free to click on one of the links on this page or other pages to find a representative from a pet supply store who can help you.

You are sure to find the right size and style collar that is appropriate for your cat within a few clicks from now. If you need further help, remember many online services are here for you.

Pillow Fight! Pamper Your Princess Kitty With a Plump Pillow

Want to really pamper your princess kitty? For the truly pampered cat, pick out a plush new pillow for her to doze and nap on. Hip new pet boutiques are quickly coming into fashion across the United States, and one of the top selling items at pet boutiques, besides clothing accessories, are stylish beds, pillows and other sleeping accessories that your pet can use to nap during the day.

With most cats sleeping for about 16 hours each day, buying a comfortable pillow or bed for your kitty can actually be quite a practical investment in your cat's health and wellbeing.

If you're just starting to look for the perfect plump pillow for your favored feline, here are a few tips for finding just the right pillow.

1. Measure your cat before you go shopping. More specifically, measure the length of your cat when she is sleeping. Cats curl themselves tightly to sleep, so your large size cat may actually only need a medium sized pillow. No matter how well you think you know your kitty, you would be surprised just how puzzling the act of shopping for the right-sized pillow can be. Should you go for the medium-sized pillow, or the larger one? Do you think she'll fit OK on the small one? These are just some of the questions you might find yourself debating if you don't measure

your kitty before hand.

Cat pillows come in a variety of sizes, ranging from 18 inches to more than 50 inches! Be certain you know what size range you are shopping for.

2. Once you've measured the length of your cat when she's curled up and dozing, add about one foot to this measurement to find the proper size of the pillow.
3. Before buying a pillow, make a note of the fabric. It can be easy to get carried away when you think you find the right pillow. These days, there is quite an assortment of pet pillows and beds to choose from. But just because a certain pet pillow seems to match the décor of your apartment, it may not be the right pillow for your cat. Fleece is an all-around popular and good choice for a pet pillow: it is warm, soft, easy to clean, and durable.

You should also make careful note of the pillow's fitting. While cotton and foam may be suitable for a pillow that will remain inside at all times, it may not hold up well if you plan to travel with the pillow. If you suspect the pillow will eventually be exposed to the elements, or if you live in a damp, humid environment, consider purchasing a pillow that contains cedar filling. Cedar repels moisture, dampness, moths, and other insects.

4. Consider your cat's special needs. If you have an aging or arthritic pet, make sure you buy a pillow that is designed to meet their needs. If you want your cat to be very comfortable, consider purchasing a pillow that has poly fill lining. These pillows are designed to mold themselves to your pet's specific shape, and may provide an extra degree of comfort for your aging pet.

5. Resist the cute designs and trendy motifs. Many pet boutiques carry pet pillows and beds which are beautiful to look at, but which may not be practical for your pet's needs. Remember, the decorative designs may wear out quickly. It's more important that you find a pillow or bed you think your cat will love to sleep in for years to come.

6. Be prepared to face a wide range of prices. What can you expect to pay for a good quality pet pillow or bed? The price range for these types of pet accessories can range from \$20 to more than \$200! With so many different price ranges to choose from, it's important that you prioritize the features you are interested in.

7. Go round. If your cat sleeps curled into a ball, then you should opt for a round pillow. As you shop for your pet pillow, you will find many rounds, squares, and oddly shaped pillows. A round pillow is a good choice for the majority of cats. If, however, your cat likes to sleep sprawled out, you may consider buying a square or rectangular-shaped pillow.

Primp and Pamper Your Way to a Kitty Picture Purr-fect Moment

Taking photographs of your kitty can be easier than you think with a little planning and patience. Although pets are unpredictable and have a direction all their own, they can be shy and moody and be set in their habits. Pets are naturals in front of the camera, with their innate

grace and beauty, and there is virtually no pose or position that would make a bad photo. To achieve the optimal pet photograph, requires planning, patience and props. Also be sure to allot enough time for catching candid poses. Cats work according to their schedules, not ours.

Simple backgrounds and props as well as lighting should be ironed out before you bring your pet to the scene. Drape a colored sheet over a recliner and get ready to go! Experiment with colors and holding props. Buckets, boxes, and sleighs are cute to use for props. Posing or grooming tables are also handy to set your pet on. Or you can opt for a natural shot outdoors or one of kitty curled up on the windowsill. Try to get shots that capture your pet's natural coloring and mood.

First decide whether you want a close-up, full-length, or whichever pose captures your pet's expression best. Have patience. Set your shutter speed at @ 1/125th so you don't get a blob on film. Cat's sudden movements may not be able to be caught with a regular shutter speed setting. For indoor photos, make sure to have a high speed film on hand such as ISO 400 or 800.

For an alert kitty snapshot, keep your cat's iris and eyes in the frame of the camera. Kitty ears should be perky and kitty noses should be wet and shiny. Choose a familiar spot indoors and capture the furry texture of your pet with the proper exposure setting on your camera. Zoom lenses work best as they get close-up but do not intimidate your pet or scare him away. A tired pet is much more manageable so try to wear your pet out before your photo shoot. Get rid of clutter that will take away from and not add to the story behind the pet photo.

Lighting choices include sunlight, flash, artificial light and available light. A bright overcast day with natural outside light is ideal. Don't use a flash unless your cat is black. A flash will cause red-eye but using one not attached to the camera will bring out the texture and shading of a black cat. Get down on your pet's level whether it be on the ground, in the grass, or up on the mantel. Don't look up or down at your pet when taking a photo. For facial photos, get as much of the face in the frame as possible while still keeping focus. If you have to, make goofy noises to get your pet's gaze focused on the camera lens. Bring your cat's favorite toy to dangle in front of the lens.

Group pet photos are also quite charming. Be sure to keep the area confined to keep curious creatures at bay. Baskets make outstanding photos. If you can, try to capture your cats peering over the edge of your prop, whether it is a basket or a box. Use food as a lure and reward. A toy marinated in catnip might work wonders. You can also shake a rattle or a piggy bank full of coins to get your cat's attention.

Be ready to snap the photo as your pet's glance will be lightning fast. Dangling a feather in front of the lens will also get your cat's attention. When the cat looks at the feather is your time to snap. You have your first cat photo!

For funny pet photos, catch your pet doing the activity that makes her unique, such as chasing flies or licking the lasagna pan. A natural pet expression or one where your cat is not looking can make some of the best pet pictures!

Six Top Cat Comforts to Pamper Your Family Feline

The family cat likes to be just as comfortable as you are. Consider one of the six most common comforts for your growing family feline pet.

The six top cat comforts for your cat are as follows:

Padded Perch: If your cat cannot be outside, he or she would at least like to look out the window once in awhile, and have a cozy place to lie while doing so. This perch usually is filled on the inside with at least one-inch thick layer of foam, and a carpeted or faux lamb's wool coating on the outside. This unit comes most often in two different sizes that adjust to most window ledges without use of tools. Besides the cat wanting to rest here while looking out the window, the cat may also want to take a short nap here (thus the pun "catnap").

Another variation of the padded perch is the kind that is mounted to the wall by the use of a Velcro™ stick on. This type of padded perch is usually made in a similar way as the padded perch, and hold up to 40 pounds of feline weight. This is another place for your family feline to take a rest, or catnap (pun intended, really).

Plush Pet Bed: Just like you and your children, your cat would like a warm, comfortable place to sleep at night or to take a nap. This is different from the padded perch, because it is a place for your cat to sleep for longer periods of time. Usually these beds are made with soft, squishy sides and padded bottoms to provide the ultimate resting place for your feline pet. Other variations of the plush bed include a kind with a decorative wooden border, with a soft mattress to lie upon. These beds sometimes resemble miniature day beds, or small corner beds that will fit in small spaces.

If you choose to pamper your feline pet by buying that animal a bed, there are some things you should remember. For instance, you should make sure that the size of the bed is not too big or too small. If the bed ends up being too big, it would be very difficult for your cat to stay warm. If it is too small, the cat could fall out of it, or not be able to stretch out fully. Make sure that you pay particular attention to the size of the bed when purchasing it, to ensure proper fit and comfort for your animal.

Another thing to remember is to take thought to where in the house the bed will go. You would want to make sure that the space that you have for your pet's bed will be the right size. This will be easier for cats than for other animals, such as dogs, because in most cases cats do not grow to be very large. Therefore, space consideration is necessary, but is not a huge problem. The biggest concern is to find a bed shaped in a way that will help your cat be comfortable.

Scratching Posts: A cat who has a scratching post will feel as if he or she has gone to heaven. This is the best way to keep a cat's claws busy, so it does not scratch up your furniture. Furthermore, you do not have to worry about whether or not the process of de-clawing an animal is humane or not, because in this case it would not be necessary. The cat would have a place to put his or her claws other than the two thousand dollar leather couch you own.

One thing to know about scratching posts is that numerous variations of them have been invented. One scratching post model is a simple pole, usually two to four feet in length attached to the base. This is a small design in which the cat can reach his or her front paws up as far as possible and scratch around it. The cat can scratch around the base of this post as well.

Another scratching post model is the two-story one with a place for the cat to take a nap on the second floor, and on the top of the unit. The outside of this unit is usually carpeted just like a regular scratching post would be, and the inside upper floor and top of unit is perfect for sleeping. This is a great climbing unit for cats as well, and is a perfect model to have if you own two or more cats.

Another scratching post model would be the kind that would represent a small jungle gym for a toddler. It has various places for the cat to scratch, climb, and lie around, and nap. Usually it contains tunnels for the cat to crawl through as well. This particular model comes in an extremely large number of sizes and models, so you are sure to find one that is right for you.

Another type of scratching post would be the homemade model. If you happen to be a crafty person, you can make your own scratching post into one of the models explained above, or even more. Materials needed would be various sized barrels (cardboard or wood would be best), different sized hollow tubes, wooden squares and rectangles (for the bases), nail or staples, and either a hammer or a nail (or staple) gun. Some further instruction can be found online, in a library, or from a friend or relative if needed.

Whether you buy an already made scratching post or construct your own, your cat will love every minute of it, and will probably be grateful you have not cut his or her claws off.

Grooming Supplies: Grooming supplies can mean a multitude of items, even nail clippers or shampoos. However, the kind of grooming supplies and treatments that a cat would most likely enjoy would be when you comb his or her hair. Cats like to be rubbed, especially behind the ears. Therefore, you can use this concept to your advantage when trying to a routine tick or flea check.

If you find a brush with bristle ends that are soothing to the skin, your cat would really the sensual feeling of you coming the cat's coat of hair. It would be like a human giving another human a massage or a cosmologist washing a customer's hair before trimming it.

Other supplies used can comfort a cat, but it depends on whether that cat will mind being touched for a long period of time. That would include using shampoos that are as gentle as a baby's shampoo to wash the cat's hair. If your cat does not mind getting wet, the calming of hand washing the cat's fur can be very relaxing to the cat.

One other grooming supply that can be used is a self-grooming arched brush. This arched brush stands upright on a base, and is big enough for the cat to crawl through, but small enough to remove all the loose hair from your cat. Your cat will enjoy this, because most cats love to rub against objects around the house anyway.

Remember these tips about grooming to pamper your cat, because your cat does no more want to be spoiled than a child.

Comfortable Pet Carriers: Most cats do not like being transported in a small pet carrier. However, some carriers can actually provide more comfort than others. Flexible carriers that are shaped like a duffle bag or purse are sometimes recommended over the plastic box shaped ones, and fit in a traveling vehicle a lot easier. These types are often well ventilated, and are usually equipped with a padded bottom for the cat to lie down upon.

Some carrier designs come with a rain cover to protect the pet in the event of an outdoor storm while the pet owner takes the cat bike riding. If you are a cat owner, you would be very wise in considering this type of pet carrier over the traditional box type.

Decorative Safety Collars and Jewelry: Another way to pamper your family feline is to make your family cat look great. That way, your cat will feel better going out into the world, mostly because people will respond to how well your animal looks in appearance. Some safety collars have designs on them made from colored rhinestone, beads, or other decorative stones. You can keep your pet near you in style, and the pet will also be safe as well. Be sure for maximum comfort, to find a collar material that will not irritate your cat's skin.

Spa Time for Cats – Little Tips to Pamper Them in Style

What cat doesn't love to be pampered? The market for cat pampering is amazing and unbelievable. Pet owners really treasure their feline friends and yearn to make their kitty's life as comfortable as possible. Some cats are treated like royalty. Here are some tips for basic kitty pampering.

For the average cat and cat owner, pampering doesn't have to go to excess. Put only filtered or bottled water in your cat's water bowl and change the water frequently. Experiment with music to see what your cat is attuned to. Leaving on soft music when you have to leave home will have a calming effect on your cat. Throw a slightly damp towel into the dryer for 10 to 15 minutes and then drape it across your cat's shoulders. This will help your cat fall asleep faster on chilly nights. The moist heat will alleviate aches and help with flexibility.

Make sure your feline first-aid kit is equipped with the proper medical necessities. These include: cold packs, gauze dressings, antiseptic wipes, tweezers, antibiotic treatments, cotton balls, q-tips, insect bite ointment, and your veterinarian's phone number. Visit your local library for books on feline massage so you can better help your cat's circulation and mood with kneading, gliding, and circular rubdowns. Learn about feline instincts so you can modify your cat's behavior with positive reinforcement. Sprinkle some catnip across the floor and then marinate your cat's toys in it. Watch your cats go crazy!

Many cats will appreciate a new litter box. You may bleach and sanitize old-faithful but it may be time to cut the strings and get your kitty a new pad. To make the litter box experience complete, get an odorless litter box cover to give your pet peace and less odors in a visually pleasing environment.

Cat condos, climbing castles, trees, gyms, sisal rope poles, coliseums and palaces are also available in varying decors and designs. Put your cat in the lap of luxury with a padded cat window perch. Improve your cat's diet by only purchasing high quality protein foods such as chicken, lamb, or beef. Schedule regular check-ups for your cat and have their teeth cleaned as well as their blood tested for diabetes and kidney malfunctions.

Home spas are available for purchase that includes accupressure pads for paws, a ripple massager, a gum stimulator to promote healthy chewing, and some catnip. Gourmet treats and toys are simple ways to pamper your pet as well.

For the sophisticated, above-average income cat and owner, the options for pampering are endless. Pawfumes are on the market for sophisticats. Some pet spas offer moisturizing body baths, massages and 'peticures'. Pet dentistry and acupuncture are also coveted by furry felines. Purchase some leave-in conditioner for your cat's flaky, scaly skin along with some ear cream, deodorant, treatment for chin acne, and tea tree shampoo for those pesky fleas and ticks.

Before taking your cat out in public, she may need some designer pet wear and pet jewelry. Your precious kitty may need some sunscreen for her nose and tummy areas, or some paw balm to protect her pads from the hot L.A. sidewalks. And what cat doesn't need eye protection. The most coveted luxuries by the most royal cats are a Thai massage and herbal steam spray. Essential oils are being included in products to give your pet a feeling of general well-being.

Specialty cat litter is all the rage these days. Herbal cat litter is aromatherapeutic, has a lavender fragrance, and is flushable. Any type of odor control cat litter will be appreciated by your cat. A special cat carrier is also highly respected. Go above and beyond when you install a pet door in your home so your cat is able to step outside for a midnight mouse hunt. Pet strollers are also highly prized.

SUV strollers allow you to take your cat "off-road" and on hiking trails. Cats love to nibble on grass between tuna snacks so grow your own container garden for kitty. Interactive toys keep your cat physically and mentally stimulated. Some systems dispense a ball with a food snack inside, at regular intervals, and sound their arrival with the ring of a dinner bell.

Travel in Style With Your Cat - How to Pamper Them on the Go

Cats can be rather difficult to travel with. To most cat owners they can be quite a challenge. Most cats whine, scream, hiss, and act as though they are being killed slowly and painfully when you put them in the kennel carrier to put them in the car. Only about one in every hundred actually curls up and will relax when you put them in the carrier to go anywhere. No one really knows why most of them go completely crazy when you do it.

The first thing you will need to get is some kind of fabric crate, preferably one designed for cats. Since cats are not the best travelers and pet supply companies do not generally design

stuff for the traveling cat, this step may pose some issues and problems. Keep in mind they do make them; they do exist, just keep looking. Fabric ones is the safest for you cat.

Usually when you place a cat in a kennel or crate, they go into defense mode. They jump around sometimes trying to escape. A fabric crate stops them from injuring themselves in the process. They may still scream and hiss and make other horrifying noises, but you can have the peace of mind that you know your cat won't hurt itself in the process. Not to mention once your cat becomes accustomed to the crate, fabric is much more comfortable than plastic. After all, isn't it all about pampering your cat?

Once you buy the crate, the best thing to do is to get your cat accustomed to it so that traveling in it can be peaceful, relaxing, and hopefully very uneventful. The best way to do this is to get the crate as far in advance as possible. Place it in an area your cat passes by a lot. Place a treat in front of the crate. If your cat eats the treat, praise her; pet her; make her feel all good and pampered. When she is not looking place another treat just inside the door. Again, if your cat eats the treat, praise her; pet her; make her feel all good and pampered. When she is not looking place another treat further in.

Again, if your cat eats the treat, praise her; pet her; make her feel all good and pampered. Do this everyday for a few days. You may even try putting her favorite toy or pillow in there. Some people even feed them in there. The point is to make your cat feel comfortable and safe in the crate. In her mind, she just found a neat little den and hideaway. She knows it is OK to play with, because you give her treats and praise her and pet her when she uses it.

If your cat feels comfortable and safe in the crate, it won't go into defense mode when you travel with her. She will just curl up and relax, and you can drive in peace! You may want to do some short car trips prior to your long trip, just get your cat used to the car and the moving.

If your cat still screams and fusses or gets motion sickness, call your vet and ask for a sedative. If you don't like the idea of medicating your cat, please keep in mind that it is for the safety of your cat. She will be very confused and disoriented and scared the whole trip. This will stress her out, which can cause heart problems and possibly kill her. Which would you prefer: Medicated and alive or non-medicated and dead from stress? You decide.

Bringing along some pet toys and snacks for your pet will also make her feel better about this trip. Remember, trips may be fun and relaxing to you, but not to your cat. Your cat prefers to be at home, being lazy, sleeping, taunting the dog, and cleaning itself. Trips are stressful for cats. Bringing a toy, or a snack, or some of its food, or something with catnip in it will help your cat feel comfortable and pampered during this stressful car trip. A pampered cat is a happy cat, and a happy cat is a safe cat.

When the Fur Flies – How to Calm Your Cat with a Little TLC and Pampering

Does your kitty seem moody, or seem to raise a fuss at the most unexpected times? A stressed-out cat can be indicative of several things. Your cat may be suffering from an undiagnosed medical condition, may be reacting to a new environment or new pet, or may

simply be craving attention. The majority of kitty stress can be alleviated greatly by treating your cat to a little TLC and pampering. Here are a few tips for keeping your cat healthy, happy, and stress-free.

1. Play with your cat regularly. Although it may sound simple enough, many times what your cat is really craving is just a bit of attention, fresh air, and exercise. If your cat is leash-trained, take her for a walk. Especially if your cat is kept indoor at all times, you should make the effort to play with her outside on a regular basis. Playing with your cat regularly is not only good for her health; you will likely notice a marked improvement in her emotional health, as well.

2. Make your cat a fun new toy. Pampering your cat effectively doesn't necessarily require you to spend a lot of money on cat toys and accessories. Simply spending ample time playing with her and caring for her properly is enough. We've all probably had the experience of buying our pet a shiny new toy, only to have him or her promptly ignore it, in favor of an old sock or cardboard box.

One popular and easy to make cat toy is a tissue paper box toy. Simply find an empty tissue box and drop a few rubber, ping-pong, or tennis balls inside. Your cat will delight in pawing at the box, and making the balls click and clack against each other.

3. Give your cat the spa treatment. What cat doesn't like to be pampered luxuriously? You can take your cat to one of the many pet spa centers that seem to be popping up. Or better yet, you can give your cat the spa treatment of home. Not only does this save you money, this will allow you to spend precious time with your cat. This bonding time is essential for building a loving relationship between you and your cat, and helping reduce stress in your cat.

To give your cat a simple massage, use your hand to slowly glide down the length of your cat's body. As you move your hand down your cat's body, very gently give your cat's soft tissues a slow rub down. When your cat seems relaxed, use your thumb and forefinger to slowly and gently massage the length of your cat's spine.

You can also give your cat a sauna experience as part of her spa treatment. Find a thick, clean towel and spray it with cool water. Once the towel is moist, place it in the dryer for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. When the towel is nice and warm, wrap it around your cat gently. The warm, damp towel will help aid blood circulation, increase her joint flexibility, and help reduce stress and aid relaxation.

4. Put on a little mood music. Some animal behaviorists believe that the right kind of music has the ability to aid relaxation in cats. If you have a cat that bolts from the room whenever loud music is playing, or when the TV is blaring on high, you have probably witnessed the effects of sound on cats. With their keen ability to capture sound, it seems logical that playing relaxing music for your cat will help them relax. There is several music compilations aimed to help cats relax. Use your best judgment when choosing music for your cat—anything that sounds too raucous to you will probably have the same effect on your cat.

5. Leave them alone. If playing with your cat doesn't seem to lift them out of their mood, let your cat bask in solitude for a while. Sometimes, even the friendliest cat can benefit from being left alone to bask in their solitude. Cats are notoriously solitary creatures that love to explore on their own and take luxurious naps. If your cat seems mildly stressed, and playing with her doesn't seem to lift her out of her mood, leave her alone for a while. Like humans, cats need alone time to recharge. Chances are your cat will feel better after an afternoon alone napping and resting on its own.

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