

## Litter Box Training Your Cat

- Make sure the litter box is in a quiet spot that is easy for your cat to access. They prefer their privacy so they are more likely to use a box if it is not in a high traffic space in the home.
- When you first are introducing your cat to the litter box, place them in it so they know where it is located. Even if they jump right out and don't seem to pay attention to the box, they will file the information away.
- Make sure to choose a box that is large enough for your cat to use comfortably. The bigger the better.
- Open or closed? Most cats prefer an open box, but fearful cats will often feel safer in a closed litter box they can access privately.
- Do you have multiple cats? Well, most multicat households suggest a simple equation: 1 box/cat + 1!



### *Litter Choices*

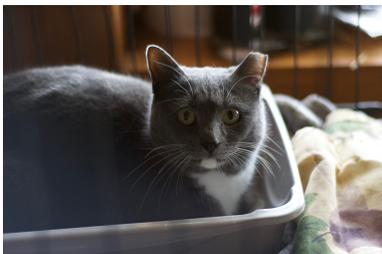
Litter Type	Pros	Cons
<b>Unclumping</b>	Safer for kittens who may be interested in eating litter.	Harder to clean.
<b>Clumping</b>	Easy to clean.	May be dangerous for kittens who are interested in ingesting litter.
<b>Natural Paper</b>	Gentle on paws.	May not be as attractive to your cat.
<b>“Pretty Litter”</b>	Allows you to medically monitor your cat for concerns.	Expensive for multi-cat households.

### *Litter Box Troubleshooting*

If your cat is struggling with litter box training, there are a few possible concerns to address.

- Is your cat medically healthy? Urinary tract infections and internal parasites can make litter box training more difficult.
- Is the box clean enough? Cats are very clean animals, and they often will reject using a dirty box.
- Have you recently changed your litter brand? Some cats take a few days to adjust to new smells or textures.
- Is the litter box in a quiet and calm spot? If there is too much activity around the box, the cat may not feel safe enough to use it.
- Are there enough boxes? If your home is larger or your have multiple cats, make sure you provide enough litter boxes so you set you cat up for success.
- Is your cat spayed or neutered? An unneutered male or unsplayed female will be more inclined to mark outside of the litter box.
- Is your cat declawed? If your cat is declawed, they may be in pain in their feet and need a softer and gentler litter option to make them more comfortable.

### *Cleaning the Box*



Remove all soiled litter daily at the minimum to keep it clean and encourage the cat to continue to use it. Deep clean the litter box weekly by emptying it completely and cleaning any residue from the box with a disinfectant that is safe for cats.