

TIPS FOR LITTER SUCCESS

House soiling and inappropriate urination can interfere with your bond with your cat, and may be a warning sign of anxiety, litter aversion, or even a medical issue.

Help to set your cat up for success by providing clean, inviting litter areas, and a stress-free environment.

Cat-approved litter boxes are: **ASCAPES**

- Abundant – there should be two boxes for your first cat, and at least one box for each additional cat. Multi-cat households should place boxes in different rooms and/or areas.
- Spacious – at least 1 ½ times the length of your cat.
- Convenient – located near where your cat will spend their time.
- Airy – not hooded or hidden under furniture.
- Private—in a low-traffic, quiet area of the home.
- Easy to access – with sides low enough to step over.
- Simple – self-cleaning boxes can be frightening for some cats.



The best litter is:

- Unscented, clumping clay litter.
- Satisfying – deep enough to scratch around in.
- Clean – scoop clumps daily, and empty/clean the box weekly with unscented soap and water.

To keep your cat's urinary tract healthy, make sure to encourage adequate water intake with easy access to fresh water. Consider offering a cat fountain, dripping tap, or wet cat food. Make sure your cat stays physically active and maintains a healthy body weight. Your veterinarian can recommend a food that will maintain urinary health and promote a healthy weight.

Stress and anxiety can contribute to house soiling in cats. Reduce stress in your cat's life by:

- Encouraging natural behaviours through play, perching, and scratching.
- Maintaining a "safe space" for your cat to escape to for alone time when they feel overwhelmed.
- Keeping a predictable routine and environment.
- Using stress-reducing pheromones, like Feliway, when changes are expected.

When accidents happen and house soiling occurs, prevent repeat incidents by:

- Cleaning the mess with an antibacterial, enzymatic pet stain and odour cleaner.
- Keeping target items such as laundry, gym-bags, and small rugs off the floor.
- Placing a litter box (at least temporarily) on or near a frequently soiled area.