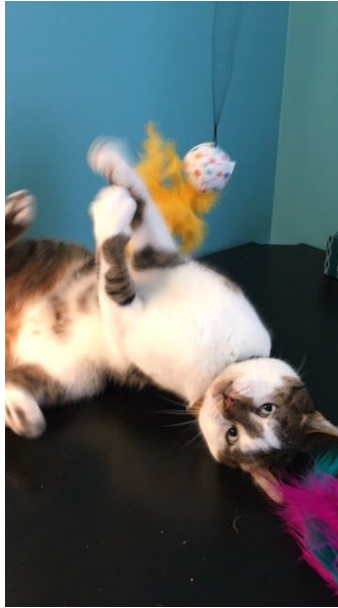


Environmental Enrichment for the Indoor cat



Key Points

- It's safe inside
- Busy minds stay out of trouble
- Vertical spaces
- Lots of toys

Benefits of living inside

Many cats live long and healthy lives from the comfort of their home. They never leave the comfort of home and this is where they are most at ease. Indoor cats enjoy the safety that many outdoor cats do not receive. They do not have to worry about predators (cars, racoons, other cats), they do not need to defend territory, and they do not need to hunt

for their next meal. Indoor cats tend to live 5-10 years longer than outdoor cats.

Disadvantages of living inside

Even though your cat enjoys many comforts by living inside, there are still some basic needs they have that are not being met. Such as stalking, hunting, scratching, and marking territory. Not to mention burning off that extra energy.

Indoor enrichments

There are many ways that you can keep your indoor cat's mind busy and healthy. Cats love vertical spaces, you can make a cats territory much bigger by providing height. Install a large cat tree or shelves up the wall for them to climb up, or a tall booth shelf with a bed on top of it. Get creative. Regular play time with a toy being thrown up the stairs for exercise. Playing hide and seek with treats can keep them active as well. Teach your cat a trick or a game! By keeping your cat's mind engaged they are less likely to get into trouble and you will have a happier, healthier home.

Resources

The Indoor Pet Initiative:
<https://indoorpet.osu.edu/cats>

Tricks to teach your cat:
<https://fearfreehappyhomes.com/3-easy-tricks-to-teach-your-cat/>

Games to play with your cat:
<https://fearfreehappyhomes.com/beat-feline-boredom-with-3-fun-cat-games/>

Visit:

www.FearFreeHappyHomes.com OR www.PacificCatClinic.com

for more tips and tricks on how to keep your home Fear Free.