

HDMS Journalism

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All About Cats!

By Jocelyn

Introduction:

In this article you will learn about cats, how to meet your cat, what they need, and more.

What Your Cat Needs:

There is a small but necessary list of supplies in order to have a happy cat. Your cat will need the appropriate food, food/water bowls, a litter box with litter and a scoop, a cat bed or somewhere to hide. A cat tree is recommended for your cat to provide enrichment, a place to hide, a carrier for transportation and plenty of toys for your cat.



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Meeting Your New Cat!

When your cat first gets home it will need some time and space to explore their new environment. Your cat will probably be scared of you and any unusual noise you make. The best thing to do is to let your cat gradually come to you. Introduce your cat to where it gets fed, where it will go to the bathroom, and where it will sleep.





By Jocelyn

Toys For Your Cat!

There are many different types of toys for your cat. All cats have different preferences, so you might need to figure out what toy your cat likes best. Different toys for your cat include wand toys, jingle balls and many more. It's good if you have quite a few toys for your cats.



All About Black Cats!

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Why Are They Feared?

In this article you will learn about black cats and why we fear them, the science behind melanism, the different breeds of black cats and more.

Black cats are feared due to a long history of superstitions, linking them to bad luck and witchcraft. The fear of black cats originated in the Middle Ages and were seen as fiendish and were believed to be "familiar" to witches.

Black cats are feared mostly in the US, Latin America and Europe. But in some parts of Europe, such as Britain and Ireland, a black cat seen crossing your road is said to be a sign of fortune not misfortune.

Why Are Black Cats Black?

Black cats are black due to something called melanism. Melanism is an unusual darkening of body tissue. Melanism is caused by a mutation in genes like ASIP (agouti signaling protein) and MC1R gene (melanocortin 1 receptor).

Not all black cats are black due to melanism. Most solid black cats are black due to a genetic quirk that causes them to have black fur. Melanism is not a bad thing and does not have to do with your cat's bad health problems. Melanism is a benefit in the wild for heat and camouflage.



Different Breeds Of Black Cats!

The black cat is not a specific breed of cat. Black cat breeds include the Bombay, Persian, Chantilly- Tiffany, Maine Coon, American Shorthair, and the British Shorthair. These are not all of the black cat breeds and some of them do not appear ONLY black.

