

CAT PERSONALITIES



Some researchers say there are 5 main cat personalities: Skittish, Outgoing, Dominant, Impulsive & Agreeable.

While most cats are an adorable blend of personalities, if your cat seems to have one trait that is more pronounced, you can cater to that personality. [Skittish cats](#) cope with their fears by avoiding scary situations, so give them plenty of places to hide with cat trees, cat tunnels, or simply cardboard boxes, [Outgoing cats](#) are often quite curious and may need more mental stimulation and play time to keep them from becoming bored (and being bad). [Dominant cats](#) can make life difficult for other cats. Make sure each cat has its own food and water bowls, and keep multiple litter boxes in the house. The dominant personality may want to claim all the resources for itself, but it can't be everywhere at once. [Impulsive cats](#) generally haven't quite figured out how to cope with life. Their reaction to situations can be erratic. They tend to manage with a mix of high energy and anxiety. Don't raise your voice to an impulsive cat (or any other cat, for that matter). It will just increase his anxiety. It helps to have set routines for feeding and playtime. An [Agreeable cat](#) is just what you think - she gets along with everyone and takes life in stride.

Of course, your kitty may be thinking, "Labels, schmables, I am who I am — deal with it — and give me lots of love, play and treats.



WHY DOES MY CAT ???

Q: Why does my cat suddenly jump up & run around like a lunatic ?



A: In the wild, cats have to hunt in order to eat. Stalking, chasing and killing prey burns a lot of energy. They're hard-wired to sleep a lot to conserve energy for the hunt. But domestic cats lead a leisurely (and, I hope, pampered) life, so they need to burn off excess energy. Running around the house like lunatic does the trick. You

might notice this sometimes happens after your cat uses the litter box. Experts think this, too, stems from cats' wild heritage where sprinting away after burying their scat helps them evade predators. A flea bite also can spark the zoomies, so check your furry friend for fleas. (Indoor cats get them, too.) A rare condition



known as Feline Hyperesthesia Syndrome can cause a cat to frantically run around the house, bite its tail and obsessively lick and scratch itself. The cat's skin also will ripple along its back. If you see these symptoms consult your vet for help.



PROF. LEROY

Remeowned cat behaviorist,
Prof. Leroy Brown,
answers your questions.

Q: Why does my cat want to sit on my newspaper, magazine, my laptop, etc?



Someone once said, "Put a piece of paper in the middle of a football stadium, and soon a cat will come lie on it." Cats like to leave their scent on things — especially your things — and they like small spaces, which might be why they pick a small, defined area to lie on. Mainly, though, your clever buddy sees where your focus is directed, so he reasons that if he sits on the object you're

looking at, your attention will be centered on him. When you respond by paying attention to him (petting him, talking to him, even shooing him away), he learns that turning your newspaper into a furry kitty gets him what he wants — you paying attention to him.



Q: Why does my cat knock things off my desk?

A: Cats will paw at an object to see how it moves, perhaps checking to see if it's a mouse or other prey. Sometimes watching the object fall and chasing it after it hits the floor is rewarding to the cat all by itself. But the real fun begins when your kitty notices how fast you come running. Wow! That's a great way to summon the humans. If this becomes a problem, instead of just an amusing part of having a cat in the house, try playing with your cat more to alleviate boredom.



HERE'S TO ALL THE CATS YOU HELPED SAVE!

Liam

As a kitten, someone probably taught Liam to play with fingers and toes, so he grew up to be a biter -- and at 15 lbs., his bites hurt! A family that adopted from us two years ago felt very comfortable with Liam. They fostered him for several weeks and learned his signals. Liam also gets along fine with the family's current cat. This is an exceptional family. Even their 7-year-old daughter has the smarts to tell her friends, "This is our cat Liam. He bites, so be careful with him."



Philomena

Philomena, was named for "The Guy Named Phil." She was locked inside an abandoned RV in Stockton in July when it was REALLY hot. She cried and cried until the door finally opened, and there was her Hero—"The Guy Named Phil." Phil had towed the vehicle to his impound lot for the CHP. He heard Philomena's meows coming from inside the RV, opened it up, rescued her and called us. Her new family is keeping her name.



Odysseus

This kitten, who became blind early in life due to an eye infection, was rescued by one of our Kitty cuddlers from her workplace in a marginal area of Oakland. Like his namesake, the Greek hero Odysseus, he has a strong, resilient spirit. He can hear a ball roll along the carpet and navigates around new places very well. He adjusted quickly to his new forever home. Really an amazing cat with great spirit!



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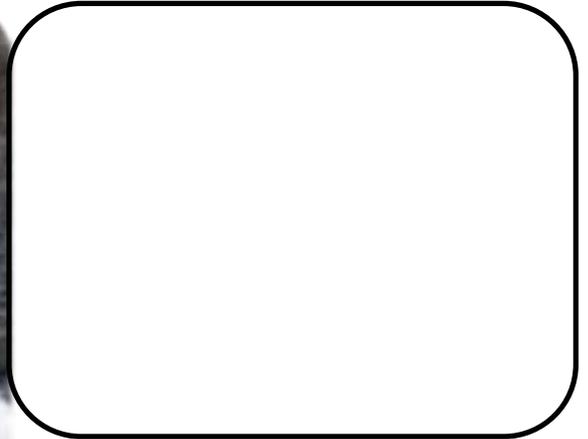




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