

Successful Pet Parenting in Housing

# A Pet Parent's Guide to Cat-Friendly Living



## Enrich Their Environment

- **Scratching solutions:** Use cardboard or sisal posts to protect walls and furniture. Even a scrap carpet works!
- **Easy hideaways:** Empty boxes make perfect hideouts—affordable and beloved by cats.
- **Stimulate & soothe:** Use toys, puzzle feeders, and calming pheromone sprays to reduce stress.
- **Warm resting spots:** Cats love cozy warmth—target a sunny spot or a heated bed, or a warmer room temp.



## Litter Box Best Practices

- **Smart placement:** Choose low-traffic, easy-clean spots like bathrooms or laundry areas.
- **The formula:** 1 litter box per cat, plus one extra = fewer messes.
- **Clean consistently:** Scoop daily, deep clean weekly, and seal waste bags to keep odors down.



## Keep It Clean

- **Vacuum frequently**—carpets, cushions, and pet-favorite spots.
- **Schedule deep cleans** to minimize allergens and maintain your rental.



## Understand & Communicate

- **Know their needs:** Cats require proper nutrition, regular vet care, and stimulation.
- **Provide outlets:** Scratching posts, perches, and hiding spots satisfy natural instincts.
- **Watch their body language:** Learn their signals (tail, ears, vocalizations) to gauge comfort.
- **Use positive reinforcement:** Treats and praise make behavior training more successful.
- **Minimize stressors:** Reduce triggers like loud sounds or sudden changes to their environment and routine.