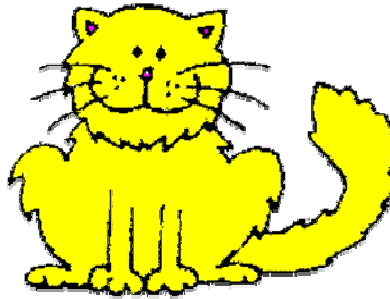




Introducing New Kitty To Family Pets

Above all, proceed slowly ~ the first encounter could set the pace for the entire relationship! Do not expect miracles...they could adapt right away, or it could take 2-3 weeks or more for them to become friends.

For Resident Cats:



1. Swap Scents. Before a face-to-face meeting, let your resident kitty smell a blanket or towel that is scented by the new kitty, and vice versa. Better yet, lock the resident kitty in a separate room, and let the new kitty walk all over in the living room to spread his scent around. After 20 minutes, lock up the new kitty and let the other kitty out. He will smell the new kitty and will already be familiar with his scent when they meet face to face.
2. Closed Door Method. Put the new kitty in the bathroom or other room where they can smell each other from opposite sides of a closed door (under the door) to prevent fighting and biting. Sprinkle some kitty treats near the bottom of the door.
3. Carrier Method. With new kitty still in the carrier, let the resident kitty smell the new one through the carrier. After a few minutes, if there is no hissing, open the carrier door slowly and see what happens. If there is hissing, close the carrier door and try again after 10-15 minutes.
4. If a face-to-face meeting starts to get aggressive, stop it immediately. Use a squirt bottle, make lots of noise, or throw a pillow to divert their attention. Separate them and make sure they each can find a hiding place to calm down. Try again after things settle down ~ and above all, **proceed slowly!**

For Resident Dogs:



Proceed Slowly ~ Even a dog who “just wants to play” may accidentally kill a cat! It happens!

1. Carrier Method. **LEASH THE DOG**. With new kitty still in the carrier, let the resident dog smell the kitty through the carrier. After a few minutes, if there is no hissing, open the carrier door slowly and see what happens. If kitty hisses or if the dog shows any aggression at all, close the carrier door, move the dog away, and try again after 10-15 minutes.
2. Closed Door Method. Introduce them from opposite sides of a closed door, so they can smell each other without any face-to-face threat.
3. Same Room Method. **Keep your dog leashed and make sure he is calm.**
 - a. Give him a treat and keep him on his side of the room.
 - b. Have a second person bring in the new kitty to the opposite side of the room, but not have her restrained.
 - c. Offer the kitty a special treat to keep her on her side of the room, ignoring the dog.
 - d. Do this in short periods until they are tolerating each other's presence without fear or aggression.
 - e. **Keeping the dog leashed**, let the cat explore the room and the dog at her own pace. Keep giving your dog treats and praise him for his calm behavior.
 - f. **If the kitty runs away or becomes aggressive, you are going too fast...**have patience ~ it will be worth it!

NEVER LEAVE THE CAT AND DOG IN THE SAME ROOM UNSUPERVISED UNTIL YOU ARE POSITIVE THAT THEY ARE COMPATIBLE!