



MyMiezu

# FELINE BEHAVIOUR QUESTIONNAIRE

"GET THE HELP YOU NEED FOR A HEALTHY AND  
THRIVING RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR FELINE FRIEND."

[stiftung-gnadenhof-luna.ch](http://stiftung-gnadenhof-luna.ch)  
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**Please include as much information as possible. The more detail available the more accurate my assessment of the case can be.**

### **Owner details**

- Have you owned a cat before?
- Have you owned this breed of cat before?
- Have you owned other pets previously?
- Please list other current household pets. (Name/age/spayed/neutered/relationship with cat)
- Please list the names, ages and occupations of other family members who live in the same household.

### **Patient details**

- Name
- Breed
- Sex
- Neutered/spayed
- Age when obtained
- Source
- Reasons for obtaining this cat
- Has the cat ever been used for breeding? if yes, at what age?
- How would you describe your cats personality?  
(destructive/nervous/depressed/hyperactive/restless/excitable/demanding attention/disobedient/noisy/excessive vocalization/playful)

### **A) Medical history**

- Please give a brief medical history, especially recurrent problems and treatment.(e.g. fur balls, fight injuries)
- Vaccination status
- Date last wormed
- Is your cat currently on any regular medications? (e.g. allergy medication, herbal or homeopathic remedies)
- Has your cat been on medication for his/her behavior in the past? Name drug/remedy and dose.
- Is your cat on any medication/remedies for his/her behaviour now? Name drug/remedy and dose.

### **B) Early history**

- Please give details of your cat's early life, if known, including litter size, age of weaning, age when obtained, whether raised outside or indoors, if orphan or stray, hand-reared etc.
- How much interaction did the kitten have with people in his/her first year? (Frequency and numbers of people)
- What method of litter training was used?
- How did you react to any mistakes during litter training.

### **C) Diet and feeding**

- What types of food and brands do you give your cat?
- How much does he/she eat a day? State actual weight if known.
- When and where is the cat fed?
- Who feeds the cat
- How many food bowls are provided?
- Where are the food bowls placed?
- Is his/her appetite good or poor?
- Does your cat eat quickly or slowly?
- What are his/her favorite foods?
- How much water does your cat drink each day?
- How much milk does your cat drink each day?
- Do you add supplement or treats to the diet? If yes, what and why?

### **D) Daily activities**

#### **Sleeping, waking and resting.**

- Where does the cat sleep at night?
- Where does the cat sleep during the day?
- List all sleeping and resting spaces of your cat.
- Is your cat very active at night?
- When does your cat get up in the morning?
- Where can the cat normally be found during the day?

#### **Toileting**

- Do you provide a litterbox? If yes, how many are there?
- Where is/are the box/boxes located?
- Does your cat use the litterbox on a regular basis?
- How often is/are the box/boxes cleared of waste material?
- Does your cat ever eliminate outside the litterbox inside the house?

#### **Going outside**

- Does your cat have access to a garden or yard?
- Is access controlled or free through a cat door?
- How often do you see other cats in your garden?
- How much time is used outdoors by your cat each day in summer and winter?

#### **Roaming**

- What area is available to the cat to roam?
- How far does she/he roam on average?
- Does your cat stay away from home for several days at a time?

## **Territory**

- Does your cat defend his/her territory against other cats? Describe his/her reaction.

## **Hunting**

- Does your cat catch prey and bring it into your house?
- What type of prey does he/she catch?

## **Home alone**

- How long is your cat alone without people on any given day?
- What arrangements are made for the cat if you are away from home for a while, e.g. on holiday?

## **Play**

- Is your cat playful?
- Is there any specific time devoted to play on a daily basis? If so, how much?
- Who initiates play; people or the cat?
- What types of toys does your cat play with?
- Does your cat come when called or do any tricks?

## **Scratching**

- Do you have a scratching post? Please describe.
- If yes, how many and where are they placed?
- Does your cat use the scratching post?

## **Family routine**

- Has there been a change in your household routine?(e.g. new work hours, new baby, moving, new roommate or visitors, boarding or diet changes?)

## **E) The home environment**

- What type of home do you have? (e.g. apartment, ground floor, upper floor, house?)
- How would you describe your home? ( e.g. quiet, lively, chaotic?)
- What areas of the house does your cat have access to?
- Please draw on a separate sheet of paper a map of the layout of your home with the cat's key areas indicated. (e.g. feeding, litterbox, favorite rest areas) Please indicate any windows through which the cat can see the outside.
- Is your cat keen to explore?
- When you have more than one cat, when do you see them all in the same room?
- Do some cats spend most of their time in only certain locations? If yes, which cats and where do they stay?

## **F) Interaction with others**

- How does your cat behave when visitors come to the house? (e.g. hides, acts interested, interacts with them?)
- Is the behavior different toward familiar and unfamiliar people?
- Is your cat quick to approach new people?
- Has your cat ever bitten or scratched anyone?
- Please describe your cats reaction to each of the following. Familiar men, familiar women, familiar children, unknown men, unknown women, unknown children, familiar dogs, unknown dogs, familiar cats, unknown cats.

## **G) Other behaviours**

- When does your cat miaow?
- When does he/she growl?
- When does he/she purr?
- Is your cat aggressive when denied something he/she wants?
- Does your cat ever show mounting or other sexual activity? If so, to whom or what?
- Does your cat tolerate, enjoy or resist grooming and other handling?
- Does your cat lick or chew on itself more than you would expect? If yes, where on the body?
- How do you correct your cat when he/she misbehaves?

## **H) The current problem**

- What is the current problem you are having with your cat? Describe it briefly.
- When did it begin?
- How long has it been present?
- How old was the cat when it began?
- Did the onset of the problem coincide with any event or action you can identify?
- Where does the problem occur?
- With whom?
- How often?
- Other details?
- What has been tried to change or correct the problem?
- Is the problem getting better, worse, no change?
- Do you suspect any cause?
- Describe the 3 most recent incidents of the behavior.

## **I) Elimination and marking problems (house soiling)**

**Please answer the questions below if the problem is elimination or marking problems.**

### **Elimination behaviour**

- Does your cat use the litterbox? If yes, how often?
- Does your cat use the litterbox for urine only, faeces only or neither?
- Does your cat bury it's urine?
- Does your cat bury it's faeces?
- Is there much scratching and digging in and around the litterbox?
- Does your cat ever eliminate outside the litterbox inside the house?

### **Litterbox**

- How many litterboxes are there?
- What type? (e.g. shape, size, covered, uncovered)
- Where is/are it/they located?
- What type of litter material do you use?
- Do you always use the same brand?
- Are there odour control granules added?
- How often is the litterbox cleared of waste material (scooped out)?
- How often is it completely cleared out and washed?
- What do you use to clean the litterbox?
- How often do you provide a completely new litterbox?

## Problem details

- Is your cat leaving faeces, urine or both outside the litterbox?
- How often does this occur? (daily, weekly, monthly, always)
- What time of day do you usually find the faeces or urine outside the litterbox?
- How big is the spot of urine?
- How many times a day does your cat defecate?
- Do you recall the first time you found faeces or urine outside of the litterbox? If yes, please provide the details surround the incident.
- Where is the cat depositing urine/faeces outside the litterbox? Please list the room(s) and all the location(s) in the room. Also specify if the deposits are found near windows, doors, plants, furniture etc.
- How many deposits or spots are there in any given room?
- Please draw a floor plan of the house, noting litterbox location and sites of urination/defecation outside the litterbox. Please also include resting places in cases of conflict with between cats and indicate any specific locations of such conflict.
- Has there been a change of litterbox location? If yes, how recent was this? From where to where?
- Has there been a change in litter type? If yes, how recent was this? From what to what?
- Has there been a change in litterbox cleaning routine? Is the box cleaned less or more often?
- When the problem first began, can you recall any unusual incident or anything that might have upset the cat? (e.g. moving house, new roommates, unusual noises, a new baby or pet, new working hours etc.)
- Have there been any changes in your personal routine?
- Have there been any changes in living arrangements?
- Have you ever caught the cat depositing faeces or urine outside the litterbox? If yes, what was your response? what was the cat's response?
- What posture does your cat assume when urinating or spraying, squatting or standing?
- Where is the urine located, floor or walls?
- Are there many cats outdoors in the immediate vicinity of your cat?
- Is your cat agitated by the presence of other cats?
- Are you the cat's first owner? If no, where there similar problems in a previous home?
- If you have more than one cat, are there additional litterboxes?
- How many and where are they?
- Does this cat interact with the other cats at home?
- Does this cat fight or avoid any of the other cats in your home?
- Does this cat have a previous history of urinary tract infection?
- When was the last time a urine sample was examined?
- What have you done in the past to try and change the behaviour?



## **J) Aggression**

**Please answer the questions below if the problem is aggression.**

- Describe the most recent incident and the setting it occurred in. (try to be very specific) Where was the cat, where was everyone in relation to the cat, what was everyone doing before the incident, what did the cat do, what was the cat's body posture, ears/face/tail.
- What was your reaction to the behaviour?
- How did the cat react to your reaction?
- Was there any punishment?
- How frequently does the problem occur?
- When does the problem occur? When left alone or when family members are present?

## **K) Other problems**

- Does your cat have any other behavioural problems like scratching, excessive meowing, plant eating?

## **L) You and your cat**

- How would you describe your relationship with this cat?
- Describe the relationship between male and female adult owners and children.
- What are your feelings about your cat's present behaviour?
- How would you like your cat ideally to be?
- Under what circumstances would you consider euthanasia?
- Under what circumstances would you consider replacing the cat?
- What is your expectation for change?
- Is there anything else you would like to add about your cat and its behaviour? Please give any other information you think is relevant to the case.

**Your participation contributes to the well-being of your cat, thank you.**

**- Sarah Podladtchikov**