

Pet Care of a Cat



Cats are a very popular pet in the UK. They might come and go when they want, but need careful looking after.

Food and drink	Environment
<p>Cats eat meat. They are not vegetarian.</p> <p>Clean water must be put out for them to drink, so that they stay healthy.</p>	<p>Cats need a dry, comfortable place to live. They often like having a few places to sleep.</p> <p>Cats are easily scared, so they need places where they feel safe. Under beds or on the top of shelves are good places.</p>

Cat behaviour

If a cat does any of these things, it might mean they are distressed:

- licking themselves a lot;
- hiding more often;
- sleeping hunched up.

If a cat does shows this behaviour, it can mean they are in pain:

- being bad tempered or angry;
- disappearing for a long time;
- keeping away from people.



How to treat a cat

Cats will come for a cuddle when they feel ready. You must not try to force them to sit on your knee or be stroked. Remember, each cat is an individual, so will behave differently.

Things to remember:

- Cats need exercise. They need to go outside, or have toys to play with.
- Cats need to scratch their claws to keep them sharp. If they are not given a proper scratching post, they may use the sofa!

Look after them properly, and your cat will be your best friend.



Questions

1. What sort of food do cats need to eat?
2. Why do cats need clean water?
3. Which two adjectives are used to describe the type of place cats need to live in?
4. Where might a cat go to feel safe? Name one place.
5. Name one thing a cat might do to show they are distressed.
6. If a cat starts being bad tempered, what might this mean?
7. What do you need to do if you want a cat to come for a cuddle?
8. Why do cats need to scratch their claws?
9. Think of one thing you have learned about caring for a cat from this text.