

# LITTER BOX BASICS

Litter box habits are very important for the health and happiness of your cat as well as yourself! It can be frustrating to have a cat that has accidents outside of their litter box. Here are some tips and tricks to ensure we are setting your cat up for success.

## TIPS FOR LITTER BOX SUCCESS

### SIZE: THE BIGGER THE BETTER

- Cats prefer big litter boxes
- They should have enough room to step in easily, walk around and dig.
- Consider making your own. Rubbermaid containers work great for litter boxes. You can cut down one of the sides to make it easy for your cat to get in and out if needed.
- Cats prefer boxes that are uncovered. This way they don't feel trapped.
- Automated litterboxes often startle cats and are not recommended.

### LOCATION: PRIVACY PLEASE

- Position the box to ensure there are two entrance and exit points so the cat can leave the litter box easily. This is especially important in multi-cat households.
- Multiple boxes and on different levels of the home are recommended.
- The area should be quiet. Avoid placing litter boxes near appliances or high traffic areas.

### FOR OLDER CATS:

- Easily accessible.
- Older cats may have difficulty climbing stairs or seeing in dark spaces.

### CLEANLINESS: KEEP IT CLEAN

- Scoop litter daily.
- Empty litter and wash with mild soap and water weekly.
- Avoid liners in boxes as most cats do not like the texture or sound.



### ADDITIONAL TIPS:

- Most cats prefer clumping, sand-like litter. Once your cat has a substrate preference please stick to it to avoid a litterbox aversion.
- The number of litterboxes per cat is one per cat PLUS one. If you have two cats in the house, you should have 3 litterboxes.

If you have any additional questions or concerns regarding your cats litter box habits please contact your veterinarian.