



CAT-CAT INTRODUCTION

TTU ANIMAL BEHAVIOR CLINIC

Prepare for introduction:

- Create a separate space for new cat with enrichment, food, water, and litterbox.
- Keep the cat in their own space (with the door closed) and allow them to come out of their carrier on their own time.
- Do not automatically introduce your resident cat to your new cat.

Gradual interactions

- Start feeding and playing near each other but without any physical contact (use physical barrier - baby gate, transparent door).
- Over time, reduce restraints and allow them to interact with each other with less control from the people. Watch for body language.
- After weeks of successful interactions, allow unsupervised time together between the cats.

Introducing scents and spaces

- Start by swapping items with each animal's scent (blankets, toys) to let them get familiar with each other's smell.
- Slowly introduce the new cat to common areas, and allow your resident animal to explore the new cat's space.
- Pair these exposures with high-value treats.

Important things to remember:

- Never force interactions between the animals; allow them to go at their own pace and watch their behavior.
- Reward positive experience with high-value treats so ensure learning.
- Do not reprimand behavior; separate and reintroduce them at a later time (may have to go a step back in the introduction process).

Check out these helpful resources!



CONTACT US!



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