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## FEARLESS CONVERSATIONS

# Welcome Home, Kitty!

Helping your cat adjust to a new environment



One of the most common questions we hear from our adopters comes *after* they take their new cat home—when kitty finds a hiding place and won't come out. Distressed and desperate, they call us to ask, "How do I help him feel more comfortable??"

Know that you're not alone. Even the most well-adjusted feline needs some time to get used to the unusual sights, smells, and sounds he's experiencing in your household. Here are some tips that will help him relax, come out from under the bed, and join the family in no time.

1. Prepare a room for him, like a bathroom or bedroom. Make sure you check for any places where he could get outside! Set up the room with the following:

- A place to hide. Cats will go under beds, dressers, and other pieces of furniture (and they can squeeze into spots smaller than you might think). It's better to set up some hiding places that are more accessible for you. Cardboard boxes draped with blankets are good.
- A feeding station and litter box. At first, cats may only come out at night to eat or go to the bathroom. That's ok. It's all about letting kitty move at his own pace.
- Enrichment items. Don't just include a scratching post and a few toys. Consider leaving a radio on turned low or spraying scents in the room. Remember that cats are curious and they like novelty.
- Calming sprays like [Feliway](#) or [Bach Flower Remedies](#) are formulated to help cats overcome anxiety and fear and may help your new kitty feel relaxed.

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### Other Fearless Conversations related to this topic:

- [Tigger, meet Felix: Introducing your new cat to your current cat](#)
- [How to get your kids to help care for kitty](#)
- [How soon is too soon? Deciding when to adopt after losing a pet](#)
- [Cats 'N Dogs: Yes, these two species CAN get along](#)





## FEARLESS CONVERSATIONS



2. Visit regularly but make sure he has his quiet time. Sit at his level, play with him with interactive toys (check out our list of the [Top 5 Feline Favorites](#)), brush him if he likes that, even read to him. You want him to get used to YOUR sounds and smells, too. Leave items of your (worn) clothing in the room.
3. Don't force it! It's hard to resist the urge to drag him out of his hiding spot so you can snuggle him and tell him everything will be OK. Don't. Once he feels more confident, he'll come out on his own.
4. Let him explore at his own pace. Once he is comfortable in "his" room, you can let him out into other parts of the house. Leave the door to his room open so he has a safe place to retreat.
5. Follow his lead! Best Friends Animal Society has a great [guide to cat body language](#) that will help you figure out what he's trying to tell you. He'll let you know when he's ready to join the family and leave his safe room behind for good!

## We want to hear from you!

Fearless Conversations is based on what YOU want to know about all things cat, but we can't give you advice and info on what you want to know unless you tell us! Use the comment section below to tell us what you think about this month's Fearless Conversation or to suggest a future topic.

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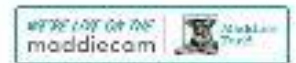
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## FEARLESS CONVERSATIONS

## Top Five\* Feline Favorites

\*As Selected by the Pros at Kittyville



Cats love toys, and they are vital to keeping kitty's mind and body active and healthy. (Also, if you don't provide some toys for your family feline, she's likely to make her own...)

We've all stood in front of a wall of colorful feathers, plastic, and plush in the local pet store and wondered, "What the heck will my cat like?"

Well, wonder no more! The hard-working cats and kittens from FKR have put in endless hours road-testing all manner of toys to produce a list of their five favorites. While we can't guarantee that your picky kitty will like all of them, chances are very high that she'll like at least one (hey, data doesn't lie).



[Modkickers](#) are big enough for kitty to grab, wrestle, and bunny-kick. Great selection of fabrics, including options for mid-century modern design fans. Premium quality organic catnip helps spice up playtime. (\$7.99 at Hauspanther Studio)



[Da bird](#) is a regular favorite at Kittyville that coaxes some impressive gymnastic moves from our residents. This interactive toy is great at mimicking the flight of a bird and the feathers make a zipping sound through the air that really drives cats into da crazies. (\$8.95 at Amazon)

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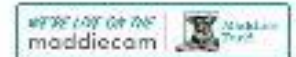
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## FEARLESS CONVERSATIONS



The [Yeowww! Catnip banana](#) is handmade from 100% natural cotton and filled with organic catnip to give your favorite feline a healthy play experience. Like the Modkickers, the size (and shape) are great for cats who love something more substantial to hang onto when practicing their karate moves. (\$6.95 apiece on Amazon)



[Wine cork](#) – You *could* toss one of your used corks around for your cats and they'd be content chasing them around. But these come with fancy feathers for a little extra oomph and excitement. Plus, they're pretty! (\$4 each at Hauspanther Studio)



Cats may be finicky about a lot of things, but when it comes to **boxes** even the fussiest feline can't resist. Added bonus: they're free!!

## We want to hear from you!

Fearless Conversations is based on what YOU want to know about all things cat, but we can't give you advice and info on what you want to know unless you tell us! Use the comment section below to tell us what you think about this month's Fearless Conversation or to suggest a future topic.

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@fearlesskittyrescue

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Tag Friends

Get Messages

Posts

**Fearless Kitty Rescue**

1d · 🌐

If you haven't seen our latest [Fearless Conversation](#), you're missing out on the results of a lot of intensive research. We put past and present residents of Kittyville through their paces with loads of balls, feathers, laser pointers, and stuffed objects to come up with the Top 5 Feline Favorite Toys. Check it out, then post a picture or video to social media of your cat playing with one of the most popular picks and tag Fearless Kitty Rescue to be entered into a super-cool drawing to win a free toy from our partner [Hauspanther](#)! Deadline to participate is August 31<sup>st</sup> so get playin', kitties!

#topcattoys #kittyhappiness #FKR

150

4 Comments

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**Fearless Kitty Rescue**

1d · 🌐

We have a great story to share. We had a stray kitty come into Kittyville. A good samaritan contacted our volunteers to bring the cat in. We scanned for a microchip and we were able to contact the owner! "Ona" was originally a Fearless Kitty! Her mom was house sitting for her daughter and the kitty got spooked and ran out. Her mom was so so relieved to hear from us! Happy ending!

#FountainHills #Scottsdale #AdoptDontShop #FKR #Kitties #HappyEnding



5.0 5 out of 5 · Based on the opinion of 36 people

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Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

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Typically replies within a few hours

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fearlesskittyrescue.org

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Fearless Kitty Rescue



**fearlesskittyrescue** Cats can't operate a camera but you sure can! Post a picture or video to social media of your cat playing with one of the toys featured in our [recent Fearless Conversations blog](#), tag us and you'll be entered into a drawing to win a toy from our partner [Hauspanther](#)! Deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>.

#bestcattoys #kittymadness



48 likes

1 DAY AGO

Add a comment...

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## Reminder: Online Silent Auction Starts Today!

 Fearless Kitty Rescue <info@fearlesskittyrescue.org> (Fearless Kitty Rescue via auth.ccsend.co  
To Liz Finch


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A bored cat is a naughty cat – you probably know this if your kitty is shredding your couch or stealing all your ponytail elastics.

Never fear, though, we have the solution! Our latest [Fearless Conversations](#) features the top five toys as chosen by our Kittyville residents!

Enrichment is crucial to creating a healthy cat so make sure you provide them with an abundance of safe toys. You'll have a contented cat – and you won't have to spend time hunting for your hair ties!

We also have an incentive for you to try one of the top five: Share a photo or video on your social media of your cat playing with one of the toys we featured and tag us to be entered in a drawing to win one of [Hauspanther's](#) amazing creations! Deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>.

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## FearlessKittyRescue

2,415 Tweets



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## FearlessKittyRescue

@FearlessKitty12

#No-Kill Cat Shelter. We are a #non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing homeless and abandoned cats and kittens. #BeFearless

Fountain Hills, AZ [fearlesskittyrescue.org](https://fearlesskittyrescue.org) Joined August 2014

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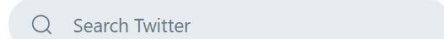
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## Tweets

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Barley was perfectly content tossing around his stuffed bluebird until he caught sight of our [latest Fearless Conversations blog](#) about the most popular cat toys. He's been bugging us ever since for a groovy [modkicker](#) or a [Yeowwww! banana](#).

#topcattoys #happykitty #FKRcats

