






CAT INTEGRATION CHEAT SHEET

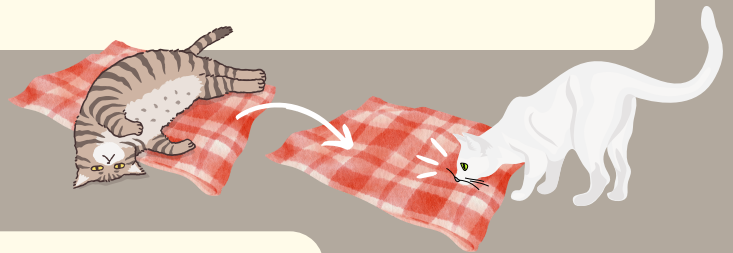
CHECKLIST: THINGS TO PREPARE

- Ensure that you have at least one month for the integration process
- Set aside a spare room where your new cat can be confined initially
- Provide boxes or pet beds for your new cat to hide in if needed
- Have an extra litter box, food/water bowl, and blanket ready
- Install tall baby gates, pet gates, or a sturdy net to separate the cats
- Use a large pet playpen to allow controlled interactions between the cats
- Offer plenty of treats to encourage positive interactions







WEEK ONE: DOORS CLOSED

-  New cat in an enclosed spare room
-  All necessities (*litter, food, water, bed, toys*) in room
-  Meal time: Feed both cats at the door simultaneously
-  Playtime: Engage in games that allow interaction behind closed door
-  Scent swapping: Exchange the cats' blankets occasionally



WEEK TWO & THREE: DOORS OPEN, GATES UP

-  Open the door and place a pet gate instead (*ensure it is sturdy and high enough*)
-  Continue staging feeding times, playtime, and any other interactions in close proximity
-  Slowly reduce the distance between the two cats every day by feeding closer to the gate
-  Area swap: Allow your new cat to explore the rest of the house while your resident cat smells traces of your new cat in the closed room (*2-3 times a week, 15-20mins each time*)





WEEK FOUR & FIVE: SUPERVISED INTERACTIONS

Face-to-face interactions

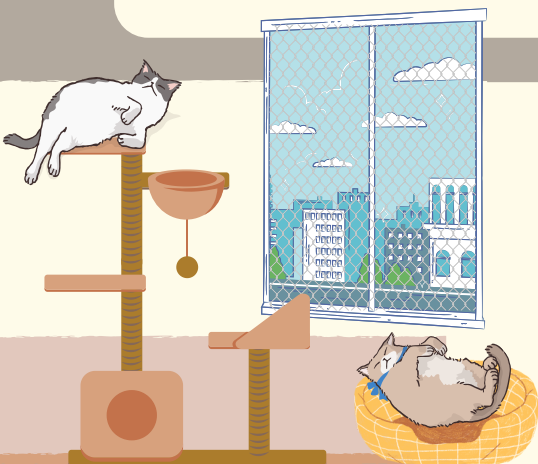
- 🐾 Short intervals of 5-10 mins at a time
- 🐾 Human between the two cats as a barrier
- 🐾 Safe space (*separate room or hiding spot*) nearby for cats to retreat if they feel overwhelmed or threatened
- 🐾 Repeat sessions for 1-2 times a day if:
 - Sniffing one another • Calm energy • Both cats in lying positions • Playing without aggression
- 🐾 Remove aggressor *immediately* & pause for 1-2 days if:
 - Hissing/Yowling • Aggression (e.g. teeth barring, puffed tail, flattened ears, claws out) • Fight breaks out

*Tussling without aggression is normal - they are establishing dominance

*Never punish the aggressor or they might associate the other cat as the cause of their punishment.

Playpen interactions

- 🐾 Place the new cat in the large playpen for 30 mins to an hour a day in your common area (e.g. living room) with all the necessities placed inside
- 🐾 Allow the cats to interact and play with one another through the playpen
- 🐾 Continue meal times within close proximity
- 🐾 Cat guardians can consider sitting in the playpen with the enclosed cat to create more forced encounters



WEEK SIX: FREEDOM

- 🐾 Increase face-to-face interactions until you can remove all barriers and gates
- 🐾 Provide safe spaces in your multi-cat household to ensure that each cat has a comfortable area to retreat to when they need their own personal space.

**Please note that the information provided is intended as a general guide for first-time cat owners who are bringing a second cat home. Every cat is unique, and the timeline and outcome of introducing two cats to each other may vary based on their individual personalities and circumstances. It is important to adjust the process based on the comfort level of both cats and humans involved and seek professional advice where required.*