



LITTER BOX 101

SETTING UP A CAT-APPROVED LITTER BOX

Providing a litter box that's appealing to your cat is the easiest way to encourage them to use it and prevent problems. The tips below are a great starting place when setting up a new litter box or if you're having trouble with your cat going outside the litter box.

SIZE

- Be sure the litter box is 1½ times bigger than the cat's current size (see graphic).
- Under-the-bed storage bins can serve as a great litter box for bigger kitties.

LITTER

- Most cats prefer unscented, scoopable litter.
- Use about 2 inches of scoopable litter. (More litter does not equal less scooping.)

LITTER BOX EXTRAS

- No lids. Cats feel safer with multiple exit routes.
- No liners. Most cats do not like the feel of liners on their paws.

QUANTITY

- There should be a box for every cat in the home; plus one (2 cats = 3 boxes).
- A litter box should be provided for each level of the residence.

LOCATION

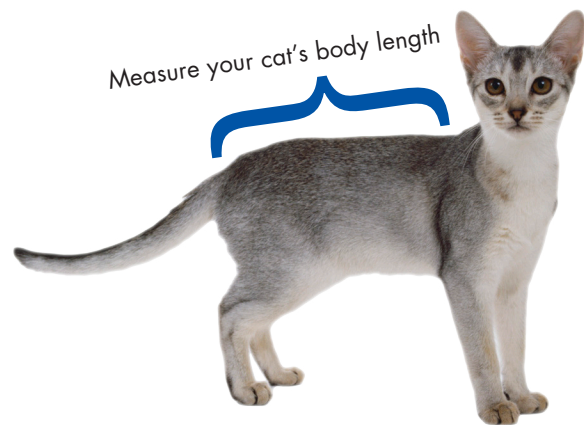
- Set up the litter box(es) in a quiet and private area. Avoid areas with loud machinery that makes unpredictable noises, such as a laundry room or in a basement near the water heater.
 - Spread your boxes throughout the home.
 - Keep kids and dogs away from litter boxes using

baby gates.

- Cat food and water should be placed away from litter boxes.
- Don't move the litter box around. Cats do best with a consistent environment and routine.

CLEANLINESS

- Scoop the litter at least once a day.
- Clean out the litter box about every two weeks, dumping all the litter and rinsing with mild dish soap.
- Over time, odors will seep into the plastic permanently. Use the "sniff test" to determine when to buy a new box. If you can smell it, it's a safe bet your cat can.



1. Measure the length of your cat's body from neck to tail.
2. The length of the litter box should be *at least* 1½ times this measurement.
3. If you feel you must have a covered box, you will need to add 2 more inches to the length, and the height must also be 1½ the length of the cat's.

EXAMPLE

Body = 12", so ½ body = 6"
 12 + 6 = 18
 Pan length minimum = 18"

| Body length | Pan length |
|-------------|------------|
| 6" | 9" |
| 12" | 18" |
| 16" | 24" |
| 20" | 30" |

Other considerations: low sides for older cats, extra width for plus-sized cats