

December 2020

Cause for Paws Cares

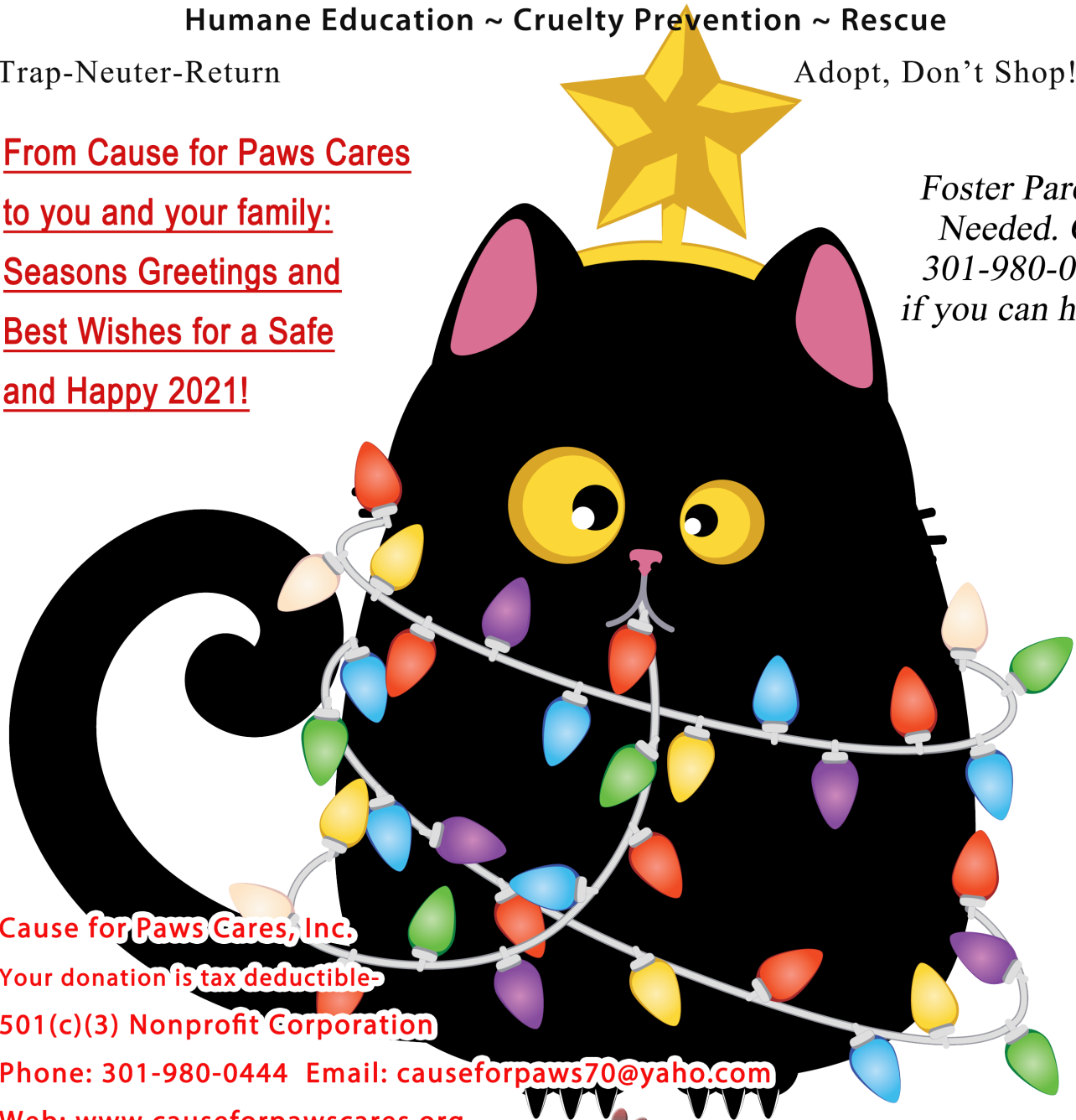
Humane Education ~ Cruelty Prevention ~ Rescue

Trap-Neuter-Return

Adopt, Don't Shop!

From Cause for Paws Cares
to you and your family:
Seasons Greetings and
Best Wishes for a Safe
and Happy 2021!

*Foster Parents
Needed. Call
301-980-0444
if you can help.*



Cause for Paws Cares, Inc.

Your donation is tax deductible-

501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation

Phone: 301-980-0444 Email: causeforpaws70@yahoo.com

Web: www.causeforpawscares.org

Mail: 12100 Rustic Hill Drive

Bowie, MD 20715

Donate through PayPal at

<https://causeforpawscares.org/Donate>



*Call us. We have many
companions waiting
for you to adopt!*

Connie

301-980-0444

(c)2020. Cause for Paws Cares, Inc.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM CAUSE FOR PAWS CARES

Even though this year brought a whole new existence to life as we knew it, Cause for Paws Cares and its staff of volunteers are very grateful to the many donors and sponsors who supported us through 2020. We had success with adoptions though not as many as in prior years; success with our annual Comforter Project earlier in 2020; success with multiple rescues throughout the year; and, success with our fundraisers though not as many participated as did in prior years.

This virus has been hard on all of us but even so, we put the animals first in our hearts and did what we could.

Thank you from Cause for Paws Cares for all you did. We look forward to a better and safer 2021.

Connie Carter
Founder and President



ADOPTIONS



Our most heartfelt adoption was of Luna and Lucy, two little joys of fur who are now with a loving family. Blessings to the four of you for a long and happy life.

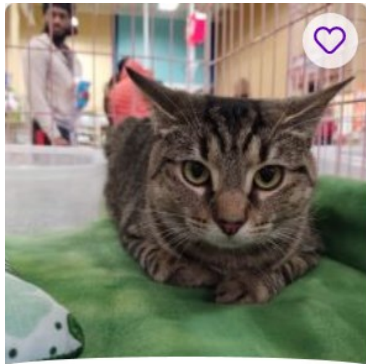
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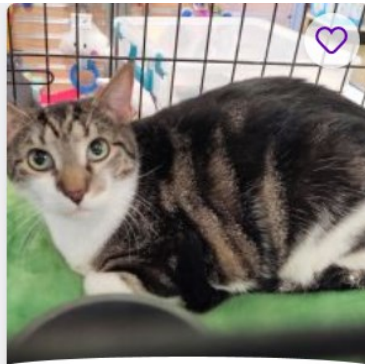
https://www.petfinder.com/search/cats-for-adoption/?shelter_id%5B0%5D=md443

Click the link above to see our shelter cats waiting adoption.



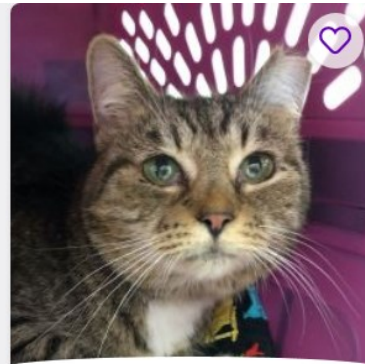
Heidi

Young • Domestic Short Hair



Leopard Junior

Young • Domestic Short Hair



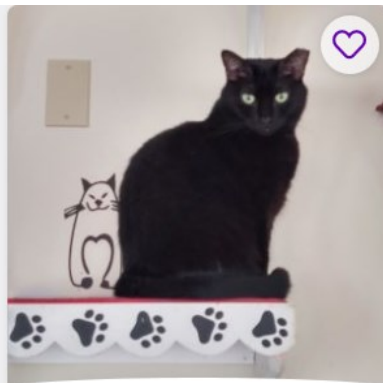
Kris

Adult • Domestic Short Hair



Kenny

Young • Domestic Short Hair



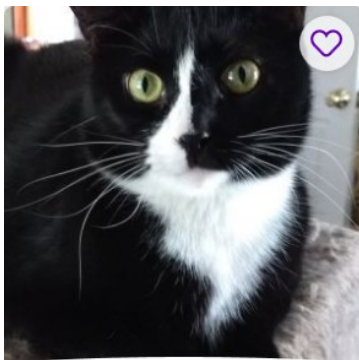
Lil Girl

Adult • Domestic Short Hair



Somerset

Young • Domestic Short Hair



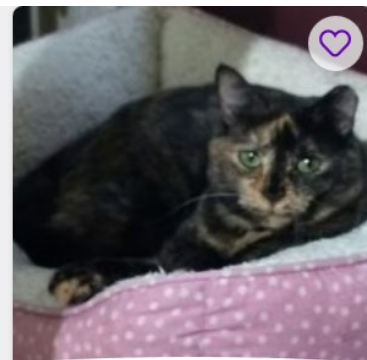
Missy

Young • Domestic Short Hair Mix



Bella

Young • Torbie



Gidget

Young • Domestic Short Hair

CALL CONNIE CARTER 301-980-444 TO VISIT THE CATS.

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Please meet **Coco**, a wonderful, precious little boy who was returned to us due to suffering from stress. His name is **Coco** and was adopted from us a year ago as a kitten but the other kitty in the home was not very nice to him and caused him to become ill. He has been taken care of by the wonderful vet, **Dr. Maturo** of the **Animal Medical Center of Watkins Park** and is now back to a wonderful healthy state but we need to find a new wonderful home. He needs a quiet home with no children or other pets. He wants his own special human. Could that be you or someone you know? Please contact me at 301-980-0444, or **Dr Maturo** at the **Animal Medical Center of Watkins Park** at 301-249-3030, for more info or to set

up an appointment to meet this very friendly and loveable kitty.

Thank you so much,
Cause for Paws Cares Team



Coco

QUICK NEWS: DNA ANALYSIS OF FELINE GENES. We know of about 250 heritable genetic conditions in cats. These include diseases like hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, polycystic kidney disease of Persians, and progressive retinal atrophy of Siamese cats. Being able to study the way these diseases are passed on to offspring is a critical part of DNA analysis. There are several laboratories broadening the database including the 99 Lives Cat Genome Sequencing Initiative at the University of Minnesota, contributed to by researchers funded by the Cornell Feline Health Center at Cornell's Veterinary Biobank. The project currently has 200 cat genomes sequenced, at the Cat Genome Project at the U.S. National Cancer Institute. Ask your Vet for a DNA kit.

Courtesy of Catwatch News

What Substances are Unsafe for Cats?

- **Alpha Lipoic Acid:** This ingredient is used as an antioxidant in some dog and human products but is toxic to cats.¹ It can cause low blood sugar, seizures and liver toxicity in cats.
- **Caffeine:** Large amounts of caffeine can cause serious issues in a cat.² Problems don't usually occur from a cat simply licking your coffee but if it eats ground coffee or caffeine pills meant for humans it can cause problems with internal organs and the nervous system.
- **Alcohol:** Cats should never consume alcohol.
- **Chocolate:** Since chocolate contains not only sugar and caffeine but also theobromine, complications with the heart and brain can occur. The darker the chocolate is, the more dangerous it is to your cat and death can occur if enough is consumed.³
- **Dairy:** Despite popular belief, cats that are no longer nursing do not have the digestive capabilities to break down the proteins and sugars found in dairy products. If an adult cat eats or drinks dairy, diarrhea may occur.
- **Curumin longa:** More commonly known as turmeric, some extracts of this plant typically cause vomiting in cats so they are best avoided. They are often found in both dog and human supplements.
- **Medications:** There are a number of medications or drugs that can be toxic to a cat. Tylenol (acetaminophen) administration in cats causes methemoglobinemia in their blood decreasing ability of oxygen to be delivered to cells which can lead to seizures and in severe cases death. In addition to acetaminophen, naproxen sodium, ibuprofen, heart medications, antidepressants, benzodiazepines, and ADD/ADHD medications can also be deadly to a cat if ingested. Human medications should never be given to a cat without consulting with a veterinarian as many medications are toxic to them. In addition to unique toxicities, acceptable doses of medication in cats is often very different than that in dogs and humans.
- **Essential Oils:** Whether inhaled or applied topically, essential oils (especially the highly concentrated ones) can be toxic to cats. The general rule is to never apply essential oils to pets as in addition to the dermal contact, they can ingest the oils when they 'groom' themselves. Different oils have different levels of toxicity based on their concentration, formulation and more. Toxicosis from essential oils can lead to nausea, vomiting, stumbling and more. Does this mean you can not have an oil diffuser? The ASPCA says not necessarily. It is recommended that if you do have an oil diffuser to keep it out of reach from pets and always make sure they have a way to escape the area the diffuser is in.
- **Grapes and Raisins:** It is unknown if grapes and raisins are as concerning for cats as they are dogs but there have been some reports of kidney failure in cats that have eaten them. Because of this, it is better to avoid letting a cat eat these items.
- **Plants:** Be very mindful of the plants you bring into your home when you own a cat. Seemingly harmless flowers like lilies (Easter lily, tiger lily and other members of the Liliaceae family) can cause acute kidney failure and death with seemingly minimal exposure. Our suggestion is prior to bringing flowers or plants into the

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home (this includes flowers you receive in a bouquet) always check to make sure they are safe for cats on the ASPCA website. Autumn crocus, amaryllis, azaleas, chrysanthemums, daisies, mums, cyclamen, oleander, daffodils, dieffenbachia (dumb canes), hyacinths, kalanchoe (mother-in-law plants), lilies, are causes of issues, and even death.

•**Onions, Chives and Garlic:** These edible plants can cause major blood problems such as red blood cell rupture in cats and should not be fed.

•**String items:** Tinsel, floss, yarn, Easter grass and other linear items have been known to be consumed by cats and cause foreign bodies. They can cut through the tongue and intestines and be life-threatening.

•**Yeast dough:** Raw dough containing yeast can cause issues in a cat if it eats it due to the fermentation of the yeast and expansion of the dough in the stomach.

•**Chemicals:** Exposure to antifreeze, bleach, detergents, de-icing salts that cats walk on and then lick their paws, dog flea and tick medication, fertilizers, herbicides, insect and rodent bait and

other household chemicals can be toxic to cats and cause a variety of issues including seizures and death.

•**Other small items:** Anything that is small enough to be swallowed, including pieces of toys meant for cats or children, can cause a problem in a cat. Obstructions and foreign bodies can occur and sometimes even cause toxicities depending on what the items are made of.

What Should You Do if Your Cat Ate an Unsafe Substance?

If your cat ate something that is unsafe you should contact a pet poison center. **The Pet Poison Helpline at (855) 764-76618 or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-44359** charge a fee for their services but will be able to provide you with detailed information and recommendations on what to do depending on the specific item your cat ate. A veterinary visit may be needed depending on what is recommended.

“Dear Shopper,

This is your quarterly AmazonSmile donation notification to inform you that Cause for Paws Cares received a new donation of \$90.79. Thanks to customers shopping at [AmazonSmile](#), everyday purchases generated over \$200 million in donations to charities worldwide so far. \$1,180.89 to Cause for Paws Cares.”

PLEASE SUPPORT CAUSE FOR PAWS CARES THROUGH THE AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM. It's EASY. Just set up Cause for Paws Cares as your charity (smile.amazon.com/ch/47-1824249) and every purchase you make through Amazon Smile, provides us with a contribution.

 Supporting: Cause For Paws Cares Inc

Want to use AmazonSmile ? See how to activate [here](#). Click here to shop. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-1824249> Set up Cause for Paws Cares as your routine charity today!

Cause for Paws Cares

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We Always Need the Following Items

We request that items be new and unopened. We are always asking for volunteers and money, too. Ship to Cause for Paws Cares, 12100 Rustic Hill Drive, Bowie, MD 20715, 301-980-0444, causeforpaws70@yahoo.com.

Visit Amazon for a convenient shopping list, https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1E1Q0EGTJZYRA/ref=cm_go_nav_hz.

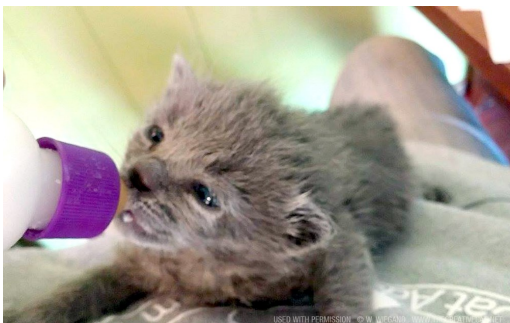
- gift cards to grocery and pet stores
- paper towels
- disposable and regular litter boxes
- kitty toys
- KMR milk powder
- canned and dry kitten food
- canned and dry adult food
- litter scoopers
- scoopable litter

Fostering Kittens: An Important Job

A strong foundation can give these adorable babies a great chance of finding a forever home. Here's how.

Consider this: One cat and her offspring can produce a whopping 420,000 cats in just seven years. Each year, from April to November, hundreds of thousands of kittens are born — often to feral or stray moms that struggle to survive on our streets, in the suburbs, and in rural areas. Without human intervention, most of these newborns will die or lead short, miserable lives. The moms that are not killed by cars, other animals, or disease, will repeatedly become pregnant, adding to the already crushing pet overpopulation problem.

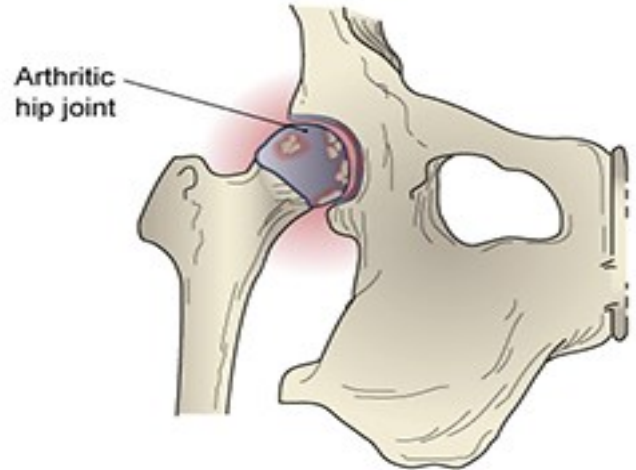
How You Can Help. Cause for Paws Cares has a vigorous rescue program for felines. Call us for help and assistance at 301-980-0444. Aside from ensuring that your own cats are spayed and neutered, consider fostering a litter of homeless kittens. Newborn kittens that have lost their mom must be bottle-fed around the clock and their tiny bladders and bowels must be expressed on a regular basis. We need dedicated people who are willing to welcome kittens into their home and nurture them until they are old enough to be placed for adoption. Foster families are always needed. Call us today to help. Connie Carter 301-980-0444.



Identifying osteoarthritis (OA) pain is one of the first steps in providing cat-compassionate care

Creating a compassionate mindset for cats with OA pain can lower stress for cats and for you. Discover more about how to implement these valuable techniques in your space.

There is a gap between what owners think of as pain and what veterinarians think of as pain. Often, cats present for behavioral problems, and when pain is treated, the behavior problems resolve. In addition, among owners of cats with no OA diagnosis, 45% reported behavior changes that correlated with osteoarthritis pain; meanwhile, only 4% of surveyed veterinarians use a questionnaire to capture cats' behavior at home. This gap can be narrowed through cat owners and their veterinarian. Using a checklist to help



identify signs of OA pain at home can help vets, cats, and their owners. Download the simple to follow checklist at

<https://www.zoetisus.com/oa-pain/img/pdf/feline-oa-checklist-print.pdf>

Leading OA pain researcher, B. Duncan X. Lascelles, BSc, BVSc, PhD, CertVA, DSAS(ST), DECVS, DACVS, MRCVS, has developed a series of short, "how-to" Feline Exam Videos that explore each of these stages in depth. These videos give insight into how you can thoroughly and compassionately examine and diagnose cats. You can also discover different ways to observe signs clinical pain in cats at home.

[Watch Videos](#)

MARYLAND ANIMAL LEGISLATION

- (a) A person who owns, possesses, or has custody of a domestic animal may not drop or leave the animal on a road, in a public place, or on private property with the intent to abandon the animal.
- (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$100.

Oct 1, 2020

Three New Maryland Laws to Protect Animals Take Effect October 1st

On October 1st, three new laws were effected to raise welfare standards for animals in Maryland. They focus on areas of cruelty such as animal sexual exploitation and abuse, dealing with the often crippling costs shouldered by animal control agencies and shelters while animal abuse cases are being adjudicated, and the feeding of unnecessary antibiotics to farm animals in large farming operations for non- therapeutic reasons, often to cover up unsanitary conditions and contributing to the widespread problem of antibiotic resistance.

Protection of Animals from Sexual Abuse – Criminal Law- Animal Sexual Abuse HB 641: Makes animal sexual abuse a felony, closes loopholes in the current law, and strengthens Maryland's prohibition against sexually abusing animals such as those who allow others to sexually abuse their pets, often for profit. Judges can order a defendant not be allowed to own or reside with animals and may also order a convicted abuser to undergo and pay for psychological counseling. Studies have shown that violence to animals has a direct correlation to abuse of children. Sponsored by Delegate Atterbeary and Senator Lee.

Cruelty to Animals – Payment of Costs – SB 152/HB 135: Allows judges to award restitution to agencies for the costs of caring for animals seized due to cruelty. Sponsored by Senator Ready and Delegate Moon.

Keep Antibiotics Effective Act SB 471/ HB 652: In the U.S., nearly 70% of antibiotics are sold for use on farms. They are often fed in routine, low doses to animals who aren't sick to prevent diseases that can be caused by poor diets and stressful, cramped or unsanitary living conditions. This legislation strengthens the regulations of the Keep Antibiotics Effective Act of 2017 and improves farm animal living conditions by ensuring that Maryland cattle, swine, and poultry are not fed antibiotics unless they are deemed medically necessary by a veterinarian. Sponsored by Senator Pinsky and Delegate Sara Love.

Cat Sounds Explained

Cat vocalization types and what they mean

Videos courtesy of Susanne Schötz

Have you ever wondered what your cat is trying to say to you? Cat vocalizations have meaning and carry important messages for those able to discern them—Swedish phonetics expert and cat researcher Dr. Susanne Schötz has done the research to prove it.

Dr. Schötz is an associate professor at the Swedish University of Lund, where she teaches courses on human phonetics. She's also a cat lover. Naturally, she grew interested in deciphering cat-speak—or meow-sic, as she calls it—employing methods typically used in analyzing human dialects to figure out what cats are communicating. With the help of colleagues and a research grant, she delved into cat phonetics in order to understand these complex vocalizations, with the end goal of improving human-cat relationships. Lucky for us, the academic findings are unpacked for the general cat-loving population in her illuminating book, *The Secret Language of Cats*, in which she introduces the reader to cat phonetics and the full range of feline vocalizations, explaining what they can mean in different situations.

Here, Dr. Schötz provides an intro to cat sounds and their meaning, categorizing the many different cat sounds into distinct types.

Use this link to hear, <https://moderncat.com/articles/cat-sounds-explained/>

Courtesy of Modern Cat Magazine

How Old IS Your Cat? How to Convert Your Cat's Age to Human Years

Written by [Franny Syufy](#)

Some [purebred cats](#), like the [Maine Coon](#), mature much slower than others and don't

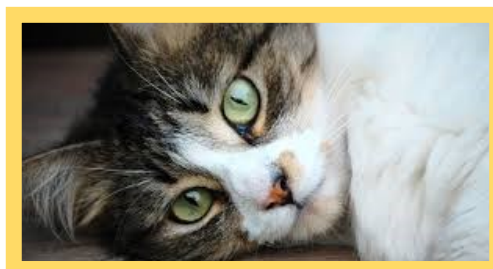
reach full development for three or four years. Like humans, cats age in relation to genetics, diet, exercise, care at home, and [veterinary care](#). For example, a kitten can be six or seven weeks old but appear to be far more advanced physically over a human baby of the same age.

Regardless of the chart's averages, it's worth it to get an idea of how old your beloved cat truly is in human years:

1. First, allow 15 human years for the first year of your cat's life.
2. Then, add 9 years for the second year. For instance, a 2-year-old cat will be approximately 24 human years.
3. Next, add 4 human years for each successive year of your cat's life.

Finally, refer to the [cat-age-to-human-age chart](#) to double check your calculation.

the
spruce *Pets*



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For those who missed the November mask sale, contact Connie directly to make arrangements to see. All colors and all patterns, including Christmas, are available.



Mask sale!

Need a Mask? Want a high quality mask
that expresses your personality?

We will have lots of designs available to purchase.
You can even place an order for that special design.



Holiday patterns now available!

12100 Rustic Hill Drive
Bowie, MD 20715

Mask must be worn and social distance observed.
For more info, contact Connie Carter at 301-980-0444.
Cash or charge only

Topical feline parasite protection gets FDA green light

The solution, which contains imidacloprid and moxidectin, helps control heartworm, fleas, mites, and more

May 28, 2020

Talk to your VET

The generic form of a broad spectrum treatment for preventing heartworm, fleas, and other parasites in cats has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Imoxi Topical Solution for Cats, which is available by prescription only, is the first nonproprietary version of a topical imidacloprid and moxidectin product.

In cats, it is used for:

- the prevention of heartworm disease;
- the killing of adult fleas and treatment of flea infestations;
- the treatment and control of ear mite infestations; and
- the control of certain life cycle phases of hookworm and roundworm intestinal parasites.

The newly approved solution contains active ingredients in the same concentration and dosage as Bayer's proprietary Advantage Multi for Cats, which the FDA approved in 2007.



WHY DOES MY CAT LICK ME?

If you've ever been licked by your cat, you know it's not the most comfortable experience, and it leaves you wondering why does my cat lick me? It's rough, scratchy feeling that can be a bit irritating. This is because, unlike us, cats have tiny barbs on their tongue that are meant to help pull out excess fur during grooming. It's important to remember that cats don't realize their licking can hurt us. It is often comforting to them so they think it must be comforting for us as well.



a

So why does your cat lick you?

Here are the top 5 reasons:

1. To strengthen your social bond by "cleaning" you. Okay, so maybe being covered in cat saliva isn't our idea of clean, but it's how cats create bonds with each other. When a group of cats lives together they groom each other to acknowledge they are part of the family. Your cat is essentially doing the same thing with you—letting you know you are part of their group.
2. For Attention. Like, little kids who tug on their mom's clothes to get their attention, cats will often lick their owners as a way of saying "hey, pay attention to me!" This is often an innocent request to be pet or to play, but can sometimes indicate something more serious is wrong. If you have any serious concerns please contact your vet.
3. Stress. Just like humans have little stress habits (kids sucking their thumbs, nail-biting, leg shaking, etc.), cats use licking as a way to calm themselves during times of high anxiety. Some cats will lick themselves in one spot for so long they develop bald patches. They may also project this behavior onto you, so pay attention to their body language to get a better idea of what they're trying to tell you. Need a refresher on [cat behavior and body language, click here?](#)
4. Territorial Marking. You may think you own your cat, but in reality, they own you, and licking can be one of the ways they show it. We all know cats use pheromones to mark their territory, but we're more used to hearing about [urine being the main marker](#). Cat saliva works in the same way, so if your cat has been licking you and you notice other cats start shying away from you, this is why. The other cats are acknowledging that you belong to someone else.
5. You taste good. Sometimes the answer is as simple as that. Salt naturally builds up on your skin during the day, so your cat may just be trying to get a tasty treat. Don't worry, though. Most cats will only lick and won't actually try to eat you!

Don't feel bad if you don't like the feeling of your cat licking you—you're not alone! However, simply pushing your cat away may strain your relationship. Well, no matter the reason it means they're comfortable with you. Don't punish them for their affection—they might start to associate you in general with unpleasant experiences. The best way to avoid this is with distraction.



Donate



Help keep a roof
over their heads!

By check to Cause for Paws Cares, Inc.,
12100 Rustic Hill Drive, Bowie, MD 20715

Or through PayPal at the website,

<https://causeforpawscares.org/Donate>



If you can foster, volunteer, purchase a mask, or provide items we need, please contact me.

Connie Carter 301-980-0444 causeforpaws70@yahoo.com

THE PANDEMIC WAS HARD ON OUR CAT SHELTER, TOO. Please help if you can.