CREATING A SAFE AND COMFORTABLE HOME

FOOD AND WATER

Establish consistent feeding times as this **creates routines**. Puzzle feeders or treat balls can provide enrichment.



HOME SAFETY

Keep toxic plants, human foods, chemicals and medications out of reach.

Animal Care Australia

animalcareaustralia.org.au

A SAFER & HAPPIER LIFE FOR YOUR CAT

With planning, patience and the right environment, most cats adapt well to contained living and continue to enjoy happy, enriched lives.

If your cat experiences ongoing stress during the transition, seek advice from your veterinarian.

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Scan code to view ACA's Cat Ownership Policy.

Animal Care Australia

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HELPING YOUR CAT LIVE A HAPPY LIFE IN A CONTAINED ENVIRONMENT





KEEPING YOUR CAT HAPPY & STIMULATED

CLIMBING AND EXPLORING

Cat trees, shelves and window perches allow cats to observe their surroundings and stay active.

PLAY AND STIMULATION

Interactive toys encourage stalking, chasing and pouncing behaviours. Even simple items like paper balls can provide enrichment.

SCRATCHING AND RESTING

Scratching posts help maintain claws and stretch muscles.

Cats also benefit from cosy resting areas such as hammocks, beds, tunnels or boxes.

WHY CAT CONTAINMENT MATTERS

Cats living in secure, contained environments often live longer and safer lives than those allowed to roam freely.

Although keeping your cat within property boundaries can feel challenging, with patience, planning and the right set-up, most cats adapt well.

Cats living in contained environments are protected from:

- Traffic
- Fights with other animals
- Serious disease
- Becoming lost

HELPING YOUR CAT ADJUST TO CONTAINMENT

Introduce change gradually

If your cat previously roamed, gradually increase time indoors or within secure outdoor areas over several weeks. This helps reduce stress.

Encouraging them indoors at meal times helps build positive habits.



SAFE OUTDOOR ACCESS

Containment does not mean your cat must stay indoors all the time. Many safe outdoor options allow cats to enjoy fresh air while remaining protected.

- Cat runs
- Catios
- Netting systems
- Cat-proof fencing
- Harness and leash training

Ensure outdoor areas provide shade, shelter and fresh water.