

When a cat wags their tail, it means they're uncertain, annoyed or irritated. Look for the tell-tail signs of how a cat feels!

JUST LIKE US, CATS AREN'T ALWAYS IN THE MOOD FOR ATTENTION. IF THEY WALK AWAY OR WON'T APPROACH YOU, DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY. IT'S OKAY FOR A CAT TO SAY "NO, THANK YOU"!

Cats who have been through a difficult time in their lives may be extremely fearful. Be patient – it can take days, weeks or even months before they feel safe enough to let their guard down. Regularly offer tasty treats or toys, and wait for them to come to you.

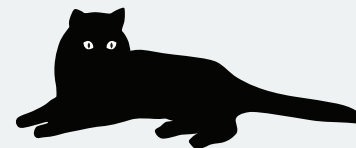
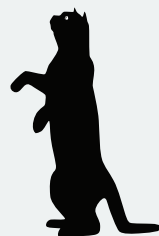
EARN THEIR TRUST WITH TREATS AND TOYS!



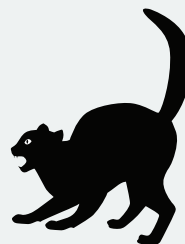
THE PURR-FECT PET

Do you know how to “speak cat”? Cats communicate with their body language, and it's up to us to be translators. We can build a relationship with a cat by making them feel comfortable and understood.

“LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!”



“GIVE ME SPACE, I'M NOT READY FOR PETTING!”

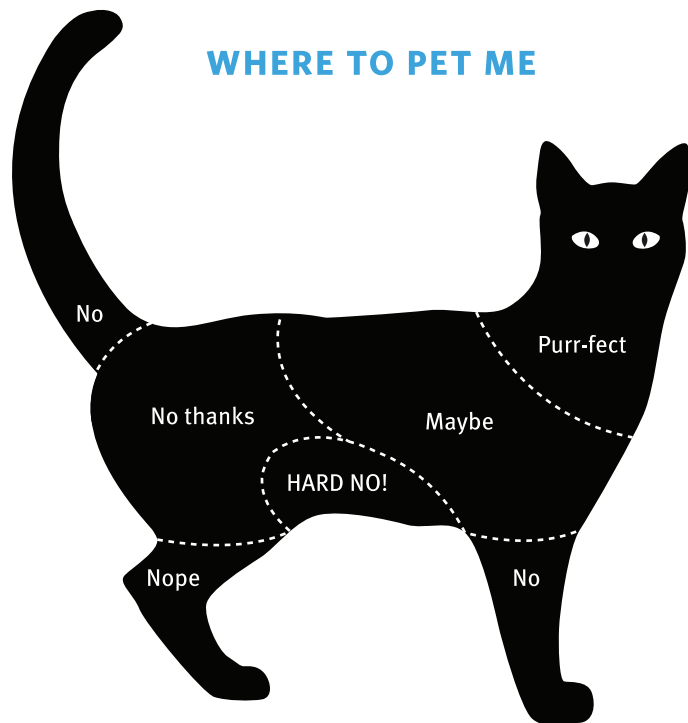


DOES THIS CAT WANT TO SAY HELLO?

| YES | NO |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front of kennel • Comes up to you when you talk • Walks up to you • Seeks your attention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back of kennel • Hiding • Walks away/doesn't come • Growls or hisses |

New places and new people can be scary even for very social cats! Pay attention to their behaviour to see what they're trying to tell you. Cats who are shy or under-socialized will need extra patience – offering tasty treats can help build trust too.

WHERE TO PET ME



1. Offer your hand slowly and give them time to approach and sniff you.



2. Try a couple gentle strokes on the cheeks, chin or forehead.
I might like scratches behind the ears.



3. Try a couple more gentle pets.



4. Go slow, take a break! Too much petting can be overstimulating. Pay close attention to what the cat's ears and tail are telling you.



If a cat likes the attention, they'll lean into you or try to rub you with their forehead, cheeks and chin. Cats have scent glands here and may leave a "feel good" scent to mark their territory. Stop or slow down if their ears flatten, tail starts twitching, or they pull away.

WHEN CATS SHOW THEIR TUMMY, IT SHOWS THEY TRUST YOU, BUT THEY'RE NOT ASKING FOR A BELLY RUB! THIS AREA IS VERY SENSITIVE, AND TOO MUCH ATTENTION COULD QUICKLY UPSET THEM.

