

Langford Vets

BEHAVIOUR QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CATS
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Please fill in as much of this questionnaire as you can before your appointment. If you feel that the questions are irrelevant, or that you have difficulty in answering them, do not worry, they will be discussed in detail during your consultation.

If a number of cats are involved in the problem behaviours please try and give details of them all – the reverse of each page can be used for information about additional individuals.

Date and venue of consultation:

Details about you:

- Your name
- Your address
- Contact phone numbers
- Your usual vet

Details about your cat:

- Name
- Breed or type
- Date of birth or present age
- Their sex and are they neutered?
- If they have been neutered when was this done?
- How long have you had your cat?
- Has your pet ever had any major medical problems in the past? Can you give brief details with dates?

- Does your cat have any current medical problems? Are you concerned about their health in any way?
- Are they receiving any medications at present from the practice? If yes, could you give details if you are aware of them.
- Do you give any supplements, herbal remedies, or homeopathic treatments? Please give details:

Details about the household:

- Who else lives with you and this cat? Please list all the family members and their ages.
- What experience have you and your family had in the past with cats?
- Has the family composition changed while the cat has been living with you? If so how?
- Do all members of the family interact with the cat? Does the cat have a preference for one person? If they do like one member of the family particularly how do you know this?
- What other animals live with you? Please list them with details of their type, breed, age and sex.
- Have they all been present throughout this cat's life with you? If not please indicate when they arrived in the household.

- Do all the animals get on with each other? Please indicate any particular friendships or rivalries. For example, does the cat sleep with or groom any of the other animals, and how do they greet each other?

Details about the house and household routine:

Your house

- Is your house in an urban or rural setting?
- Does your cat have access to outside? If they do go outside is this allowed all the time? When is access restricted? Is access through a cat flap?
- If the cat does go outside how long do they tend to go out for over a 24 hour period? Are you aware of how far they go?
- Are there any other cats in the neighbourhood? Where do you see them?
- Does your cat meet with other cats outside? What happens when they meet?
- Do strange cats ever come, or have they ever been, in your house?
- Please draw a rough map of the house and the areas immediately surrounding the house. You need to indicate where your cat is allowed to go, where they are fed, where they normally rest or sleep, the positions of doors to the outside and any cat flaps, and the position of windows. If the cat uses a litter tray please include this in your plan.

Feeding

- Does your cat prefer to eat meals or feed little and often throughout the day?
- What does your cat eat? How much do you give?
- Do they have any other treats or tit-bits? What are these and how much do you give?
- Who usually feeds the cat?
- Where and when do they eat?
- What does your cat drink?
- Does your cat enjoy their food?

Sleeping

- Where does your cat sleep at night?
- Does your cat have access to all the house all the time? If not please indicate which areas they have access to and when.
- Where does your cat rest during the day?

Toileting behaviour

- Does your cat use a litter tray? Do they have access to it all or just some of the time?
- Where is the litter tray in the house? How many trays do you put down?
- What litter do you use?
- How often do you clean out or empty the tray, and what do you clean it out with?
- Does your cat ever toilet or spray away from the tray inside the house? If this is not the primary problem please give brief details about these incidents.

Scratching

- Does your cat have and use a scratching post in the house?

- Does your cat scratch elsewhere inside? Do you see them scratching outside?

Play and interaction with people

- Does your cat play with you?
What do you play? How long do you play each day?
- What toys does your cat have?
Do they have a favourite toy? What is it?
- Does your cat play with other animals in the house?
If so when, where and with whom?
- Does your cat sit on laps? Do they prefer one person in the house?
- Does your cat follow you about within the house?
- Does your cat 'talk' to you? At what other times do they miaow or call?
- Does your cat chew or suck your clothes? If so, what material do they prefer?
Do they chew or suck any other materials?
- Does your cat let you groom him/her? How does your cat respond to being stroked or picked up?

Your cat's first days with you

- Where did you get your cat from?
- At what age was this?
- Did you meet any related cats? What were they like? Have you kept in touch with the breeder or owners of siblings to know if they too have problems?
- If your cat was a rescue do you know any details about their life before joining you?

- Can you remember what the first few weeks were like? Does anything stick in your memory?

The problem behaviour

Please try and describe the problem behaviour of your cat in as much detail as possible:

- When did it first happen? Can you remember and describe the first episode?
- How often does it happen? Is this changing?
- What happens immediately before the problem behaviour? Can you predict that it is going to happen?
- What happens immediately after the problem?
- How do you react when it is happening? How do you react afterwards?
- Where does it happen? Is this predictable?

- Who is there when it happens?
- Is the problem getting worse, getting better, or staying the same?
- What have you already done to try and solve the problem? Have these measures helped at all? Have they made things worse?

Other behaviour problems

Are there any other problems related to your cat's behaviour? Please give details of any other behavioural issues.

More specifically:

How does your cat behave with unfamiliar visitors?

How does your cat behave with children?

What happens when your cat meets other cats outside?

What happens when your cat sees other cats outside through the window?

How does your cat behave with dogs?

How does your cat behave with loud noises such as cars back-firing, gunshot or fireworks?

Thank-you for your co-operation with this questionnaire. I very much look forward to helping you and your cat!

Alison Blaxter