

HOW TO TEACH YOUR KITTEN TO USE THE LITTER BOX

A good rule of thumb is one litter box per cat. Some cats prefer covered boxes, and some do not. Offer a variety at first to see which your kitten prefers. If your kitten is especially tiny, you may want to start with a smaller “box”, such as a disposable baking pan, then work up to the grown-up potty.

Cats prefer to cover their waste, so a litter box offers exactly what a cat desires! The best types of litter are unscented clay or scoopable litter. Most cats find heavy scents or perfumes offensive, and may not use the box at all! Add plain baking soda to the litter if you must add something.

- When using clay litter: scoop daily, and dump the whole box and clean with a mild cleaner 2-3 times a week (more if multiple cats)
- Scoopable litter: scoop waste daily, and completely dump/clean the box every 2-3 months.

If accidents happen, do not punish-this only makes your kitten afraid of you. Clean the accident spot with an odor eliminating cleanser. For areas that are used more than once, use aversive stimuli such as an upside-down carpet runner, or a “Scat Mat” (delivers a mild electric shock). Alternatively, place food where your kitten has messed- cats do not like to potty where they eat!