



## Kitten 101: Litter Box Training

Litter box training can be among the easier activities of rearing a new family pet. Kittens are naturally drawn to using a litter box as part of their propensity for a clean environment.

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### Litter Box Training



One of the most attractive reasons to own a cat is their cleanliness. This is most evident in even the early stages of kitten development, as they begin to use a litter box.

Most kittens will naturally be attracted to a litter box for elimination. Although this very often the most consistent of your kitten's activities, interruptions is this behavior can occur. Problems tend to arise when the litter box is not accessible, clean or attractive. It is easier to avoid litter box problems than to fix it. In addition to accessibility, it is recommended that your kitten has 1, and if possible 2 litter boxes with which to use.

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### Things to Do

#### ACCESSIBILITY

- Make sure that litter boxes are easily accessible.
  - Have plenty of litter boxes. A good rule is that the minimum number of litter boxes = the number of cats + 1. (Two cats = Three Litter Boxes)
  - Place litter boxes throughout the home, paying attention to your kitten's needs in a multilayer home.

#### BIG

- Make sure that litter boxes are big enough to comfortably accommodate your full size cat.
  - Jumbo sized litter boxes, or plastic storage containers also make good options for adult cats and multi-cat households. Uncovered boxes are recommended.

#### CLEAN

- Keep boxes clean by; scooping daily and dumping / washing litter box monthly.
  - Clumping clay litters offer easy cleaning options. Most cats prefer clumping clay (sand-like) litter over other options.
  - Consult with our team if there are signs of household soiling.

### Things to Avoid

- Clustering multiple litter boxes in a single location.
- Placing litter boxes next to noisy appliances like washers / dryers / furnaces.
- Punishing your kitten for elimination discovered in the house, after the fact.
- Rubbing your kitten's nose in a mess.
- Leaving other attractive elimination options (for example: dirt in large potted plants, piles of dirty laundry on the floor, children's sandbox, etc.) accessible to your kitten.
- Keeping litterbox within easy access for the family dog...they may consider the contents a treat.