



# Cat to Cat Introductions

Bringing home a new cat will mean a small period of adjustment for your new kitty and any current cat residents. A proper introduction can help start off the relationship on the right track. Keep in mind that all cats are individuals, and some friends will adjust faster than others.

**Step 1** Before bringing your new cat home, think of an isolated area that your cat can settle in to their new environment. Full freedom to roam your home can be overwhelming for the new cat, as well as any resident cats. By having the new cat in a spare room, your resident cat can get used to the smells and sounds of your new cat without any confrontation.

**Step 2** Bring your new cat into a different room and allow your resident cat to explore the area that your new cat has been living in. Scent exchange is a great first “get-to-know-you” step for kitties.

Repeat Step 2 until you see your new cat relax and is ready to explore more.

**Step 3** Let the cats see each other through a door or gate. You can feed them on opposite sides of the barrier to help encourage a positive association. When both cats are comfortable you can move on to Step 4.

**Step 4** Allow the cats to be in the same space for increasing segments of time until they are both comfortable sharing space together. You can use play time to build their bond and cooperative behaviors.

Remember to keep a litterbox for each cat so that no one ever has to wait in line to use the bathroom. If you have more than one cat to introduce your new cat to, try to make introductions one at a time. The whole introduction process may take a few hours, days, or even a couple months. It all depends on your unique cats.