



I'M HOME.....

Adjusting to a new home can be a tense and traumatic experience for your new cat. Your patience and understanding during the initial adjustment period is very important.

Cats are very sensitive to change and even though you are offering a wonderful home, it's still new for them. Only through your actions will your new cat learn that it is safe, secure and loved.

Introduce your new cat to their new home by initially restricting him to one room.

Show them the location of the litter box, food and water. Do not overwhelm with attention or demands.

Sit and talk quietly to your new cat. It's not uncommon for cats to display behavior problems during the first few days within a new home. New cats/kittens brought into your home will often bolt underneath furniture the first chance they get. Some may even spend hours or days in hiding.

Do not chase after, stare at or try to pick up a frightened cat. It is best to allow them to come out on their own. Do not allow a cat to become cornered by another human or pet, and make sure there is an avenue of escape at all times. This acclimation period may take a day, to several days ...and/or weeks.

If there is an existing pet in your home, it is extremely important to follow the above suggestions.

Your existing or resident pet must not feel displaced or jealous. Allow the initial introductions to only be through scent from under a closed door. Hissing and growling is to be expected.

Remember, you have just brought home an "intruder". Give your resident pet extra time, attention, treats and avoid interrupting their routine as much as possible. Allow them to "visit" the intruder only under your supervision.

However, never force an introduction.

After petting and holding your new addition, allow the resident pet to smell your clothing and vice versa.

Once you have allowed your "newbie" into your entire home, you can still expect issues to happen.

There may be stand-offs, chasing and/or guarding of litter boxes, food and water.

Of course, having two or more feeding areas and litter box locations will minimize these issues.

There are also products available that can be used; Calming collars, At Ease and Feliway, are all designed to reduce stress by stimulating feline "feel good" pheromones.