



Most cats have no problem using a litter box. Instinctually, cats prefer to bury their urine and feces. However, sometimes for no obvious reason, cats are resistant to using a litter box or may begin going to the bathroom in less desirable places. Follow these suggestions and best practices to ensure your cats feel comfortable using the litter box and to troubleshoot any issues you may be having.

- Many cats prefer taller litter boxes (10-12 inches) as opposed to those with shorter sides (4-6 inches).
- 3-5 inches of litter provides ample coverage for cats to dig when using the box. • The best type of litter to use is usually an unscented, clumping litter. Recommended brands include World's Best Cat Litter, Pestell, Swheat Scoop or Tidy Cat.
- The minimum recommended amount of litter boxes per home is one more than the number of cats in the house.
- If there are multiple levels to your home, ensure there is a litter box on each level.
- Litter boxes should be kept in places that are quiet and not easily accessible by dogs in the home. Interruption while using the litter box can cause cats to avoid the litter box. Litter boxes should not be kept near loud items like washing machines, dryers, dishwashers, etc.
- Each litter box should be scooped at least once a day.
- Litter should be changed entirely every 2-3 weeks or when litter starts to smell or doesn't clump as well as it used to. Discard used litter and disinfect the litter box using bleach or another disinfectant, dry and put new litter in the box.
- Some cats have a preference for or against covered litter boxes.

CLEANING MESSSES OUTSIDE THE LITTER BOX

- If your cat does urinate or defecate outside of the box, make sure to clean the area thoroughly to remove any odor that could cause further accidents in that area.
- Use an enzymatic cleaner and never ammonia to clean a soiled area.