

CATIOtour



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FERAL CAT COALITION OF OREGON
PORTLAND AUDUBON

Saturday, September 11

A Showcase of Portland Area Cat Patios

get inspired!



#5 | DEN OF ZEN

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CATS SAFE AT HOME™

All cats deserve a safe home where they are loved, cared for and kept free from hazards.

Thank you for your interest in learning more about catios. By registering for the Catio Tour we hope you're inspired to join this growing movement and build, purchase or expand a catio for your cats. In addition, you're supporting the Cats Safe at Home™ program and our efforts to protect cats and wildlife in the Portland metro region.



CATIOS: A PURRFECT SOLUTION

When a safe outdoor enclosure is provided, you are giving your kitty fresh air and enrichment, and you are keeping both your cat and local wildlife safe. We can make a huge difference together. By keeping your cats safe at home, you will prevent cat predation on wild birds, reduce the flow of new cats into feral cat populations, and improve the health and wellness of cats. Thank you for your interest and support.

Visit CatsSafeAtHome.org for more information and like us on Facebook.

WILDLIFE AND CAT ADVOCATES WORK TOGETHER

In the Portland metro region, wildlife advocates and cat advocates are working together to address the issue of free-roaming cats. The Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon, Portland Audubon, and the Animal Services of Multnomah and Washington Counties have partnered on the Cats Safe at Home™ education program to make our communities safer for cats and wildlife.

CATIO TOUR 2021 sponsored by:

- Cat Topia
- Catio Spaces
- Construction ReConstruction
- Humane Society of the United States
- Mr. Plywood
- Omlet
- Helpful Hands Handyman Services, LLC
- CDE Animal Cages
- Habitat Haven

CATIO TOUR 2021 | A Showcase of Portland Area Cat Patios is presented by:

Portland Audubon

audubonportland.org
503-292-6855
5151 NW Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97210



Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon

feralcats.com
503-797-2606
4522 S Water Avenue
Portland, OR 97239

CATIOtour



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Raffle

FERAL CAT COALITION OF OREGON
PORTLAND AUDUBON

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
10AM TO 2PM

*Three Chances
to Win!*

PRIZES INCLUDE:

Catio 6' x 9'
Made by Omlet

\$300 Visa Gift Card

Adventure Cat Package

*Omlet prize will be shipped direct to winner,
other prizes must be picked up at FCCO office*



The Catio Tour is part of the Cats Safe At Home™ partnership that includes Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Portland Audubon. This education and outreach campaign works to reduce the number of outdoor cats in our community.

Find out more at CatsSafeAtHome.org

RAFFLE TICKETS: \$5 EACH or 5 FOR \$20

Drawing will be held at noon on September 13, 2021, at the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon



FCCO | 4522 S Water Ave | Portland, OR 97239 | 503 797 2606 | FeralCats.com

Must be 18 years or older to participate. Winner need not be present to win. All applicable taxes are the responsibility of the prize winner. Maximum of 2,000 tickets available for this raffle.

CATIO TOUR 2021 | A Showcase of Oregon and SW Washington Catos

WELCOME

The 2021 Catio Online Video Tour showcases *nine Portland area catios, and a bonus one*, with videos and images professionally captured by Decater Collins.

EXPLORE THE CATIOS ONLINE

Watch videos, see photos, and even explore the inside of the catios with special 360-degree images. The catios showcase a variety of catwalks, DIY design, dream designs, efficient use of space and enclosed patios. The 2021 Catio Tour is a fun way to be inspired to build a catio - from the comfort of your home.

SUPPORT CATS SAFE AT HOME™

The Cats Safe at Home™ program is supported entirely by charitable contributions. Visit our website to find out more about us and make a donation.

CatsSafeAtHome.org/donate

Be a Catio Host Next Year!

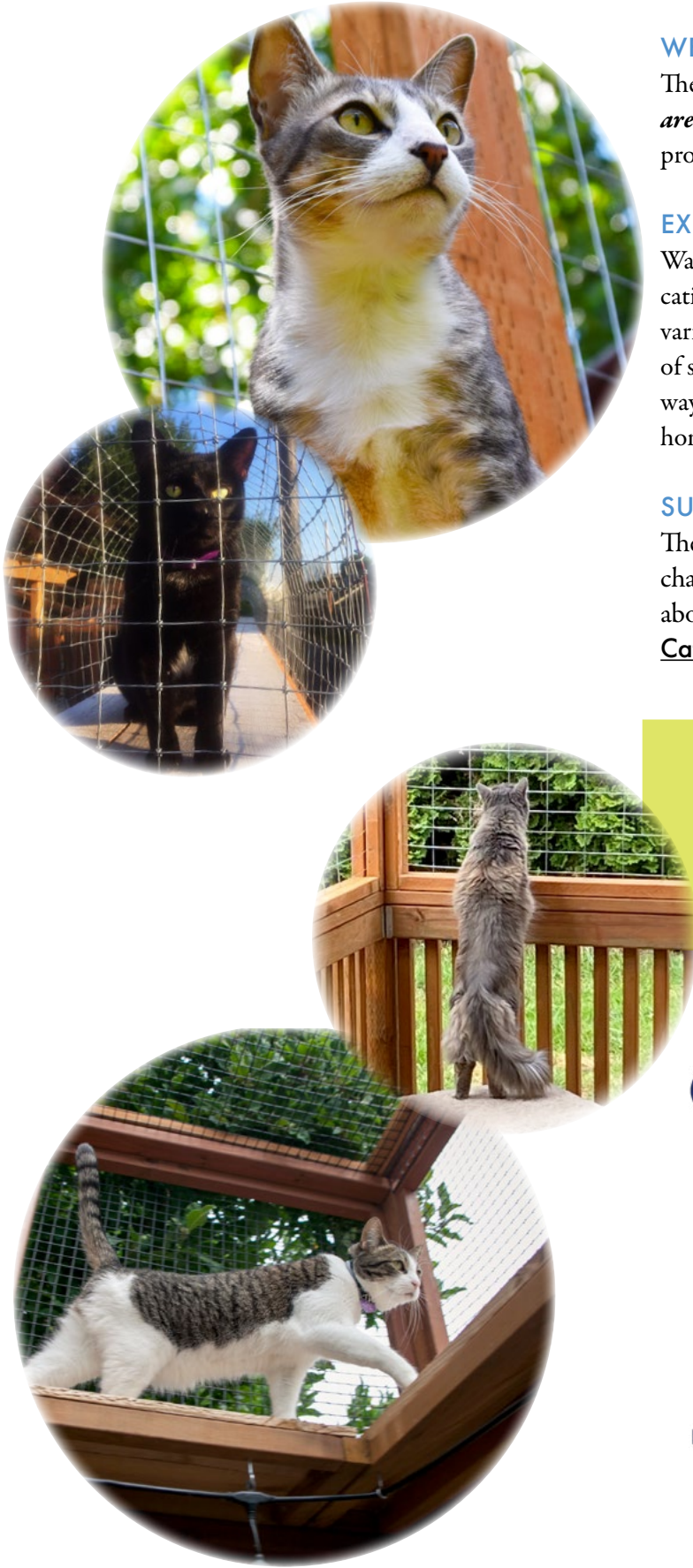
Visit CatsSafeAtHome.org/catio-host to fill out a Catio Tour Host application and submit photos.

We look forward to seeing your catio!

CATIOtour



FERAL CAT COALITION OF OREGON
PORTLAND AUDUBON



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PURRFECT PARTNERS

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Visit our sponsors' websites to find out how they can help you build the purrfect catio.



FEATHERED FRIENDS



NINE LIVES



WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SUPPORT!

For more resources and inspiration, please visit catsafeathome.org/catio-resources

SWEET RETREAT



QUICK FACTS

Year Built: 2021

Materials: 2" x 2" and 2' x 4" Elite Wood lumber, cedar boards. 2" x 3" galvanized welded wire fencing. Galvanized stand-offs to keep wood frame off ground.

Dimensions: 13' x 10.5' x 8'

Overall approximate cost: \$4,000

Features: cat walk, ledges, perches, driftwood cat tree/scratcher, hanging bridge, planters, patio furniture

About Catio One

SWEET RETREAT

How many cats do you have?

Two cats named Umi and Fen.

How often do your cats use it?

They use it every day, and they especially like spending time in the catio around sunrise and sunset.

Who designed/built it?

I worked with a contractor, *Helpful Hands*, to design it and then they built it.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

The catio site was selected to make use of the existing patio cover which provided a foundation and roof for the enclosure. Keeping the roof intact retained the original style of the 1940's house and lowered construction costs that would be associated with its removal and replacement. Nesting the catio within the original framework allows for it to be disassembled and removed without structural impact to the original patio.

How do your cats enter the catio?

The catio is accessed through a window mounted pet door. Using a manufactured pet door that included an access opening as well as glass panes was chosen for aesthetics and because it seemed to be the easiest and simplest way to provide access to the catio.

What are your cats' favorite features?

Depending on time of day they have different places they like to hang out. In the morning and at dusk they like the cat walk and perches along the frame of the catio. During the day they like lounging on the outdoor chairs. When it's

especially hot they enjoy stretching out on the concrete floor. They really enjoy getting to see the birds, squirrels, and occasional rabbit in the garden. They may like wildlife viewing best.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

It would have been great to paint the ceiling of the catio a bright blue or aqua color prior to construction. The catio is still a work in progress and where it is today provides a great jumping off point for the catio to possibly include additional access from an existing basement window that leads to the catio, as well as adding more plants and perches.

What inspired you to build a catio?

The Backyard Habitat Certification Program from Portland Audubon offered information on catios. Providing Umi and Fen viewing access to the back yard seemed like a great enrichment opportunity for them. They can see and interact with nature safely and nature is safe from their predatory instincts.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Do it! Don't let perfect be the enemy of the good. Make sure that the catio is structurally sound and safe for the cats.



CROWS' NEST HOLLOW

2



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2021

Materials: Cedar and hardware cloth

Dimensions:

Downstairs: 10' x 8' x 8'

Upstairs: 2'6" x 8' x 2'6"

Overall approximate cost: \$2,000

Features: Upstairs sundeck with lockable hatch, spiral stairs and ramps, lounging platforms, room for cats and humans

About Catio Two

CROWS' NEST HOLLOW

How many cats do you have?

We have three cats. Esmerelda Weatherwax is the fluffy brown tabby, Lilith Weatherwax is the sleek dark tortoiseshell, and Rob Anybody is the orange tabby Manx.

How often do your cats use it?

They use it every day, and they especially like spending time in the catio around sunrise and sunset.

Who designed/built it?

An architect family member was here for an extended visit. He needed a project, so he designed and built our catio as a favor to us.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

Chosen in order to integrate the existing covered patio, patio door location, and adjacent deck.

How do your cats enter the catio?

Through a half lite door with a pet door that replaced the existing patio flush door.

What are your cats' favorite features?

The spiral staircase is their favorite for playtime. If they want to get a birds' eye view, the loom is the place to be. For lounging time, they prefer the sun deck.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

Not really! I'm glad to have been convinced to put the main area on the lower porch. It worked out better with the cat run on top of the roof, because I think the upper porch would have just been too hot in the summer even if we'd added a roof to it.

What inspired you to build a catio?

We had an elderly cat that we would let out into the yard because she could be trusted to stay and sleep in the sun. Esmerelda would always try and sneak out with her but we couldn't guarantee that she would stay in the yard like her sister. So they could all have a safe area for mental stimulation and play, a catio project was the way to go.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Don't be too intimidated by it. Also, it may take longer than you were expecting for your cats to get used to a cat door. It took Rob about 6 weeks to willingly use it.

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

They are now waiting for the cat door to be opened up every morning. We now use a treat dispenser to call them in at night so we can lock the cat door.



OCHO'S DOJO

3



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2019

Materials: Mahogany wood, corrugated tinted plastic roof, 2" x 4" metal fencing

Dimensions: 12' x 11' x 7'8"

Overall approximate cost: \$11,000, including demolition of old deck

Features: Enclosed patio for cats and humans, programmable cat door, ramps

About Catio Three

OCHO'S DOJO

How many cats do you have?

One cat named Ocho.

How often does your cat use it?

He visits the catio a few times a day and hangs out there mostly in the early mornings and evenings.

Who designed/built it?

We hired a contractor to design and build it. They recommended mahogany as it would last around thirty years even if it is not treated regularly and we only wanted to build it once!

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

The back deck needed to be replaced since the wood was rotting and it was such a small footprint that no one used it. Now it's a space that gets used and enjoyed every day.

How does your cat enter the catio?

He enters through a programmable cat door cut into the house that allows him the opportunity to venture out at all hours.

What are your cat's favorite features?

He likes the sunbeams and the fresh catnip. We love eating out on the catio in the good weather. It's like having another room in the house. It's even nicer now that we have the water feature in the backyard and therefore, more bird visitors.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

We discovered that Ocho wanted somewhere to hide, so we had to purchase a mini house for him rather than

incorporating a corner wooden cubby. When we have young cats again, we may want to add more perches. After some weight loss, Ocho was able to fit through the space between the catio and the house, so we needed to have the contractor come back out and fix that. We also would have measured the thickness of the walls before purchasing a cat door because we ended up having to special order extra tunnel pieces so it would fit.

What inspired you to build a catio?

We'd been on a few catio tours and gathered ideas. Our back deck was falling apart and we wanted to replace it with something the whole family could enjoy.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Think about how you and your cat(s) can enjoy the space together, as well as what kind of cat you have. Our cat likes lots of territory, autonomy and likes places to hide rather than places to be high up. Catio's aren't just for young, high-energy cats. Senior cats may not be racing around all the time, but they are so appreciative of having the outside space to rule over.

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cat after having the catio?

Ocho stopped scratching carpets and a reading chair upstairs. He goes outside now to scratch on a scratching post and howl at any animals that come by—that's how he expresses his need for territory.



CLEVER CONVERTIBLE

4



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2020

Materials: Cedar wood, 2" x 3" 16GA wire mesh fence, clear corrugated roof panels

Dimensions: 10' x 5' x 8'

Overall approximate cost: \$1,500

Features: Multiple levels with steps and lounge areas, oak tree limb, sisal scratching post, kitty hammock, removable tunnel

About Catio Four

CLEVER CONVERTIBLE

How many cats do you have?

Two cats named Toonces and Miso.

How often do your cats use it?

They use it all times throughout the day from morning, afternoon until the middle of the night.

Who designed/built it?

We did!

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

We had an open and unused space in our yard. As it was on the north side of the house, we knew it would be cooler. We decided it would be a better use of space to build the catio using the existing fence wall but then they would need a walkway to get there since it was 3-4 feet away from the house. We also thought they might enjoy the tunnel to travel through and lie down in. We made it moveable because we have a wood pile and other yard equipment on the north side of the house that needs to be transported through that area, but mostly we just walk under the walkway.

How do your cats enter the catio?

The cats have 24-hour access through a pet door and walkway from our sunroom. The pet door in the house has a vertical door that keeps the cats in the house when it is in place. That is needed for when we move the walkway because there is nothing to block the hole in the catio. The walkway was built with 2 x 2 inch cedar. It has 2 x 3 inch mesh sides, a cedar bottom and clear plastic roof. It latches to the catio and the house with barrel bolt latches.

What are your cats' favorite features?

Their favorite is the hammock and we love the camera so that we can see what they are doing.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

We wish that we had reinforced the floor a bit more to support frequent human visitors.

What inspired you to build a catio?

After attending the 2019 Catio Tour, we left inspired and knew that we wanted to build one for our cats!

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Definitely do it!! The cats love it!!

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

They seem happier, more alert and fulfilled and definitely meow less to go outside.





DEN OF ZEN

ON THE COVER

5



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2021

Materials: Doug fir, cedar, bamboo, Red Brand woven 2x2 wire, metal roofing, sisal, pavers

Dimensions: Catio 9' x 12' x 8'
Bridge 80' x 16" x 20"

Overall approximate cost: \$12,000

Features: Programmable pet door, overhead catwalk, Red Delicious apple tree, shelves, rain gutter, suspension bridge, pet beds

About Catio Five

DEN OF ZEN

How many cats do you have?

Two brothers, Goober and Mango, who are nine months old.

How often do your cats use it?

About 14 hours a day that includes all through the night.

Who designed/built it?

Myself and a neighbor along with countless other people who contributed.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

I have a third acre and spend a lot of time in the yard. I wanted to be able to see the cats and for them to see me when I'm in the back. It's also pretty shady so I don't have to worry about them overheating.

How do your cats enter the catio?

They come and go via the upstairs of my house through a Microchip pet door into the beginning of 80' of bridge/tunnel. They could also go through the front door of the catio if I carried them in or out, because I don't want to let them run free in the yard.

What are your cats' favorite features?

I think they like the hanging mesh beds the best. The design is very forgiving on their bodies. No pressure from the hard ground!

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

Nothing, though in the future I may add a few more perches.

What inspired you to build a catio?

I had gone to several catio tours and really loved the concept of protecting your pets and the environment—and they are cool looking too! Unfortunately, I had neighbor cats coming over and killing hummingbirds that were drinking from my fuchsia, which broke my heart. I had promised my previous cats a catio, but time flew by, and I never got it done because I couldn't decide where to build it. They have since passed, but when I got my kittens in December I was not going to let them down.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Really think about where you want it that makes the most sense for the cats and you. I almost settled for an area that didn't really sit well with me. Make sure you're aware of the time it takes to build and the cost of material. There's always more to it than you think.

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

They were kittens getting into a lot of trouble in the house. As soon as I "set them free" they forgot about inside destruction, for a while, anyway. They are very happy kittens. They are showoffs when they are in there.





ENDURING EDIFICE

6



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2020 - 2021

Materials: Cedar, 4" x 4" pressurized wood posts, corrugated tinted roofing, 1/2" x 1/2" wire mesh and 2" x 3" wire mesh, outdoor carpet

Dimensions: Catio 8' x 10'
Tunnels 8' x 18" x 20"

Overall approximate cost: \$3,000

Features: Large carpeted corner shelves, multilevel vantage points, open air tunnel with latchable lids, room for cats and humans

About Catio Six

ENDURING EDIFICE

How many cats do you have?

We have three cats, Odin, Buggy and Baloo.

How often do your cats use it?

They use it daily for multiple hours per day.

Who designed/built it?

I built it with a design by Catio Spaces, The Oasis Catio DIY plan with tunnel. We will add the Catio Litter Box, which is also a DIY plan from Catio Spaces, as an attachment for the catio.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

It was the best place within our yard to put it so that it could get both sun and shade. It also allows for enough room to move around it.

How do your cats enter the catio?

They enter through a cat door that was placed within a window.

What are your cats' favorite features?

The big corner "chill space" is one of Odin's favorite places to hang as it provides a large outdoor carpeted space for him to relax. He also enjoys running up and down the 36' tunnel bridge, lounging in the natural green grass and the ledge above the front entry door that allows for morning sunshine.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

Overall, I'm very happy. There are a couple of things that I wish I had considered more thoroughly. One is that we found that the main catio gets more sunlight than we anticipated during the summer months, so during the hot

days he can easily get overheated. I also might have made my own cedar supports for the tunnels/bridges rather than using the shelving brackets, as it might have looked nicer.

What inspired you to build a catio?

We were moving across town and thus relocating our outdoor cat (an adopted stray) that we had cared for for 12 years. He had spent most of his life outside, and we didn't feel he would be happy being inside all the time. During his outdoor life, we had also taken him to the vet multiple times due to getting into scrapes with other neighborhood cats. He is 13 years old, and we wanted to give him a safe outdoor life in his senior years.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Pre-plan everything very carefully before you begin. Starting with the access point, make sure it is at a place in your home that you will be happy with, as this can't be changed. When choosing the location, be sure you think about how much sun and/or shade the catio will receive. Think about enrichment items, like something to scratch or climb on. Also, if you're going to do tunnels/ramps, think carefully about how you're going to get them up, because they're very heavy. You might consider attaching one piece at a time, rather than building the tunnel completely first and then attaching it. That is what we finally did on the last ramp.

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

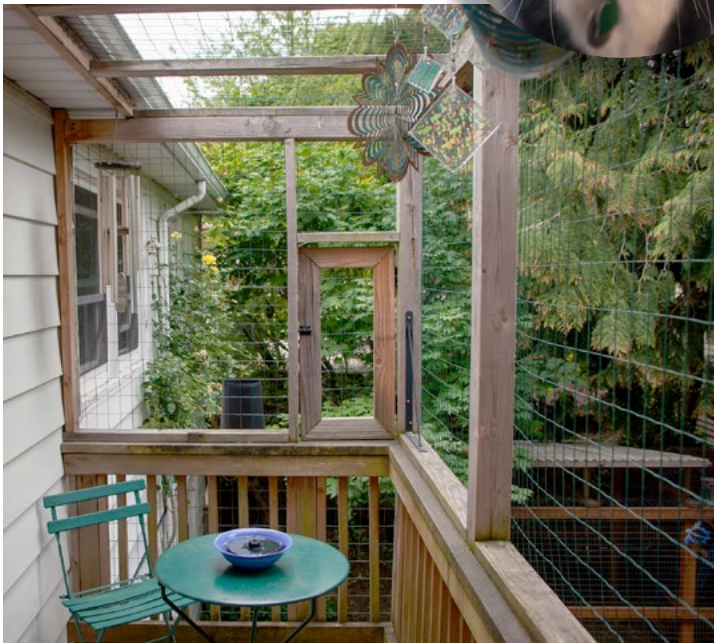
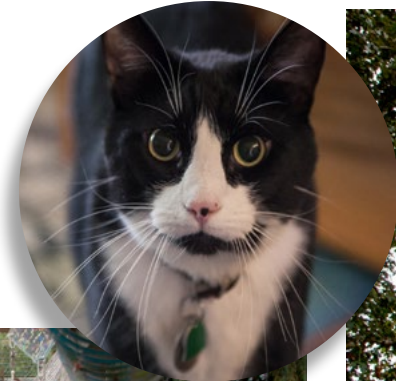
He seems happier, more lively, engaged and energetic.





LOFTY LOOKOUT

7



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2018

Materials: Wood, vinyl-coated wire mesh, assorted hardware

Dimensions: 12' x 4' 5" x 8'

Overall approximate cost: \$1,200

Features: Balcony deck, green mesh, waist level doors to shake off debris, porch light bump-out

About Catio Seven

LOFTY LOOKOUT

How many cats do you have?

Two cats, Steve (a tuxedo) and Eydie (the ‘cow kitty’).

How often do your cats use it?

They use it daily if the weather is good.

Who designed/built it?

I designed it in cooperation with Jim and Anna Petrov of *Construction ReConstruction*.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

We were able to incorporate the catio onto the existing deck and an exterior wall with access through a window.

How do your cats enter the catio?

Currently they enter through the propped open door from the kitchen into the catio. We plan to have a cat door installed through the kitchen wall at baseboard level.

What are your cats’ favorite features?

They definitely enjoy walking along the ledge where the original deck railing joins the catio structure, and of course, soaking up the rays.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

I would have added a couple of small elevated triangular shelves at the two outside-facing corners, to give the cats a larger place to sit while they’re contemplating the back yard. They do perch on the ledge, but a broader landing strip would have been nice. Also, I would have left a small gap where the bottom end of the enclosure meets the deck, to make it easier to sweep off debris.

What inspired you to build a catio?

We wanted to keep our kitties safe from encounters with cars, raccoons, and coyotes, all of which roam the neighborhood, while still allowing them access to the outdoors.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Try to take advantage of features that allow you to incorporate the catio with what you already have. Don’t make the mistake of thinking it won’t have to be closed in at the top—cats climb, especially when exploring a new place! If space allows, think about making it a shared area, where you can hang out with your cats. If that’s not an option, you can site it somewhere central to your household’s activities, so you can watch them enjoying the outdoors—and they can keep an eye on you!

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

No, they’re pretty chill. But they definitely enjoy scoping out the antics of the squirrels and the action on and around the backyard bird feeder.



LEWIS & CLARK'S ADVENTURE ANNEX

8



QUICK FACTS

Year built: Spring 2021

Materials: Habitat Haven, cedar planks, fiberglass webbing

Dimensions: 76" x 40" x 72" plus a 28' catwalk

Overall approximate cost: \$5,000

Features: Overhead covered catwalk, custom window sash, programmable pet door, kitty hammocks, multi-level shelves

About Catio Eight

LEWIS AND CLARK'S ADVENTURE ANNEX

How many cats do you have?

Two one-year-old Siberian Forest Cats named Lewis & Clark.

How often do your cats use it?

Many hours, every day, rain or shine. They are constantly going in and out via their flap. They wore out the first set of batteries in their cat flap in about 4 months!

Who designed/built it?

I did the original design and worked with AJ at *Habitat Haven* to refine the design to utilize the components they offer. The design of the custom sash is all mine. I assembled the catio myself.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

It allows for easy access for the cats to their litter boxes on the inside of the house and high enough above the patio to prevent people from banging their heads on the catwalk.

How do your cats enter the catio?

Cat-only access is via a microchip-controlled cat flap installed in the custom upper sash of a double-hung window. The sash was designed to go into the window without removing any moldings or modifying the window in any way. Access to the flap from the inside of the house is provided by a tall bookshelf-style cat tree in the TV den.

What are your cats' favorite features?

The catwalk is perfect for sunning themselves and watching the birds. They also enjoy the hammocks, hummingbird feeders and the catnip plant.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

There are a few custom features that aren't heavily utilized on the main enclosure. I have a few future plans I'm thinking about for the catio, like adding a tree limb for them to climb on. I may also extend the catwalk toward the street.

What inspired you to build a catio?

Lewis & Clark are adventure cats that love to be outdoors. That means they yowled excessively in the mornings and evenings to go out. One top of that, they're skilled hunters that would absolutely kill birds if left out unsupervised. Their catio gives them a place to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of being outside and feeling the wind through their fur while being safe from wildlife and the wildlife safe from them.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Take your time doing the design and be prepared to make changes along the way. Visit your intended location at different times of the day and at different seasons of the year. Provide areas that are sheltered from the sun and rain as well as areas that are not.

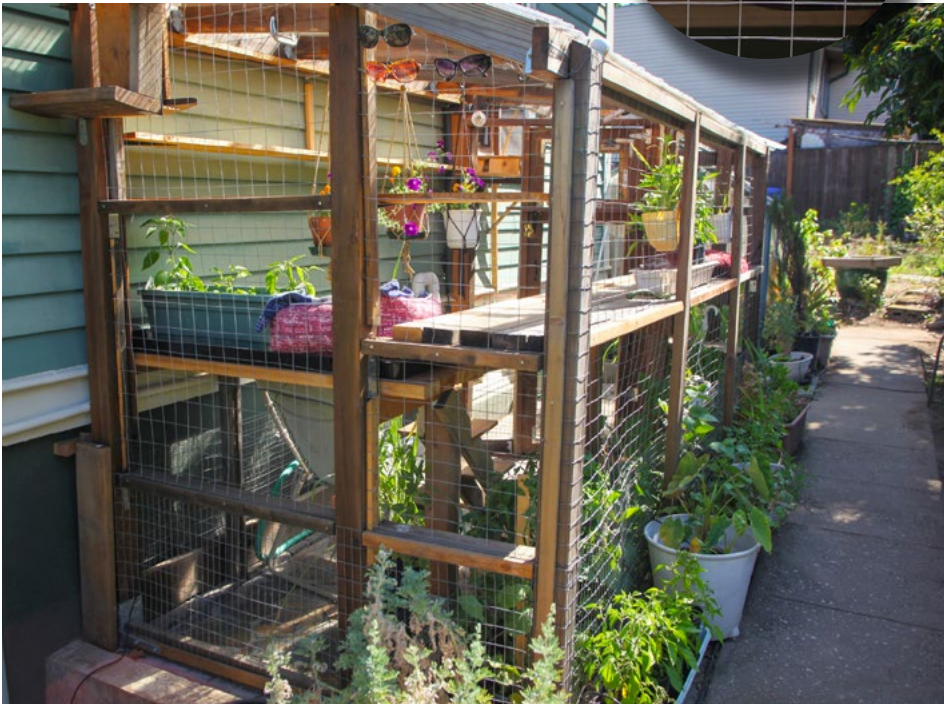
Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

Yes, they stopped yowling to go outside at 5:00 AM! They are also calmer and sleep through the night better.



KITTY CONSERVATORY & CAT NAP CORNER

9



QUICK FACTS

Year built: 2020 - 2021

Materials: KD fir, cedar, corrugated clear plastic roofing, galvanized steel animal fencing, pavers

Dimensions:

Cat Nap Corner 6' x 3' x 7'

Kitty Conservatory 6' x 10' x 8'

Overall approximate cost: \$1,100

Features: Sloped roof, room for humans and cats, kitty wraparound runways, vertical tower, multiple levels with ramps

About Catio Nine

CAT NAP CORNER & KITTY CONSERVATORY

How many cats do you have?

Two cats: Amelia, a senior shelter kitty we adopted in March 2020 and Phoenix, the unsocialized rescue kitty we started “fostering” in August 2020.

How often do your cats use it?

Very nocturnal Phoenix uses Cat Nap Corner every night, and has just discovered the Kitty Conservatory. Amelia uses Cat Nap Corner only late afternoon or evening when we are outside and she wants to know where we are, but spends most of her time in the summer in Kitty Conservatory.

Who designed/built it?

Both were completely DIY.

Why did you choose this location for the catio?

For Cat Nap Corner, we wanted a place we could install a year-round cat door that would not require cutting a hole in an indoor wall or window. Kitty Conservatory was accessible through our bedroom window.

How do your cats enter the catio?

They enter Cat Nap Corner through a cat door installed in a pane of our glassed-in sun porch. Kitty Conservatory can only be entered via our bedroom window through a cat flap installed in the window screen. We hope to eventually connect it to the Cat Nap Corner so both catios will have all-season access though the sun porch.

What are your cats' favorite features?

Phoenix loves to get down on the lower shelves of Cat Nap Corner to watch the yard critters at night. Amelia loves the potted lemon grass in Kitty Conservatory and the fact that we have room to sit inside with her for lap time and cuddles.

Is there anything you wish you had done differently when designing and/or building the catio?

I wish I could have made a longer roof overhang in Cat Nap Corner so that rainwater would not blow in and wet the cat beds. I am still trying to figure out how to make an all-season access door to the Kitty Conservatory so that it can be used in winter.

What inspired you to build a catio?

Adopting Amelia. We started to appreciate the reduced stress of never having to wonder why our cat did not come home on time. It also makes monitoring our cats' health easier.

What is your advice to people thinking about building a catio?

Make sure it is sturdy enough for you and that there is human access for maintenance and cleaning. Also, allow for flexibility to modify things around your cats' needs. If you are considering using a window, consider how it might impact your emergency exits.

Did you notice any behavioral changes in your cats after having the catio?

Phoenix became much more comfortable with us nearby and we hope it is helping her adjust to us and become more social. It is also the one place where both cats will share territory without snarling at each other.





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