

5 Things Every Cat Owner Needs

Written by AZFoothills.com

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Pets bring immense joy to the households they inhabit, and [caring for the physical and emotional well-being](#) is a priority for every pet owner. If you're getting a pet home for the first time, specifically a cat, there are some things you are going to want to have on hand before your new furbaby arrives. These items make the transition to their new home easier on the cat, making things easier for you as the pet owner. Many people fawn and worry over their pets the same way they would over their human children, so having the peace of mind that all cats' needs are met is paramount. Let's take a look at the things every cat owner needs so you and your furry companion can live your best lives!

Cat Towers

Cat towers are essential for your feline friends for several reasons. Firstly, they provide a place of refuge when cats feel frightened or stressed. During these times, cats instinctively look for higher ground, so you want to provide that for them in a cat tree. Most cat trees also come with scratching posts, an essential accessory for any cat. Cats have a natural need to scratch - not only does it remove debris and material from their paws, but this is also how they leave their scent behind. They can mark their territory by releasing scent from their sweat glands. Lastly, cat towers also provide fun places to play or rest for your beloved kitty.

While some people may find cat towers to be eyesores, it's worth getting one for the benefit of your pet. You can tuck these away in areas you don't often see if you don't like the look or size. Cat towers are also available in different styles, colors, and sizes.

Smart Products

It can make your life easier and ensure your pet's needs are being met if you let technology help you out a little bit. From automatic feeders that dispense on timers you can control to water basins that work in the same way - you can feel safe leaving your cat at home for the weekend, knowing he'll be fed and watered on time while you're away. It's also essential to invest in a litter that can alert you to any health issues your cat may develop. Litters that can detect [struvite crystals in cats](#) urine, so you can make necessary vet appointments to keep them happy and healthy.

A Trusted Veterinarian

Speaking of keeping your new baby healthy, it's best if you already have a vet lined up before you bring your new friend home. While you may have a vet already because of a dog you already own or pets you've had in the past, have a wellness appointment lined up within the first few days of getting your cat home. In addition to discovering any issues your cat may have and treating them, getting your cat used to going in the car and visiting the veterinarian is critical. Unlike dogs, cats do not typically enjoy time spent in their carriers or riding in vehicles.

Healthy Food

They say you are what you eat, so you make efforts in your life to eat the most nutritious food possible for optimal health; you may even eat a [plant-based diet](#). Give your feline companion the same leg up on health you give yourself by feeding them high-quality, nutrient-dense cat food. Sure, there are cheaper alternatives in any big box or grocery store, but quality matters when it comes to the health and longevity of your pet. Discuss what type of food your cat should be eating with your veterinarian, and go from there. Pet boutiques in most towns offer higher-end, healthy options or online retailers to make shopping for these foods easier.

A Subscription Service

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These days we're all well acquainted with the benefits of subscription services. We can have our essentials delivered monthly, quarterly, whenever we want, from wine to diapers. It's in your best interest to sign up for subscriptions for your cat's food, litter, and even toys. Subscription services will take one more thing off your plate, freeing up time to snuggle and love on your new cat.

Owning pets is rewarding, and cat lovers know all too well the joy that the species brings. Though cats often live life on their terms, that makes love and affection they give us that more precious. By making sure you've got all the items mentioned above on hand before bringing your new feline home, you'll have more time to get to know and enjoy one another. Congratulations on your new family member!