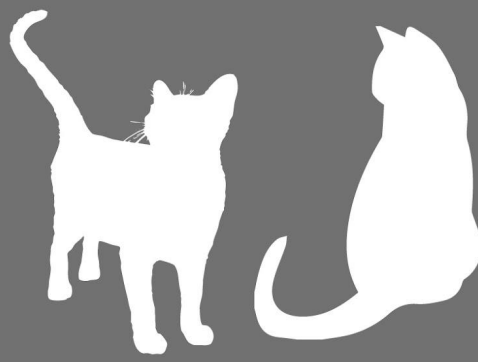


# CATS



## SCRATCHING

Scratching is an important biological need for all cats. Cats scratch to keep their nails in healthy condition and also to help them release stress and negative emotions. Cats have different preferences for scratching so it is best to experiment to find what combination works best for your individual cat.

- Orientation- Cats usually have a preference of whether they like vertical scratching, horizontal scratching, or diagonal scratching objects.
- Type of scratching material- They also have a preference as to whether they like carpet, sisal rope, and cardboard.
- Size- In general, you want to make sure your cat can fully stretch out when they scratch so short scratchers don't work very well.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

Do you have scratchers but your cat is still using your furniture?

- Are the scratchers in a desirable location? Move the scratchers next to what your cat is wanting to scratch on.
- Put catnip and silvervine over your cat scratcher to attract your cat to it.
- Use play time with your cat to encourage your cat to go on the scratching items and interact with them.
- If you see your cat actively scratching an incorrect item, pick them up and put them on the right one.
- When your cat is scratching the right item, give them a treat.