

In others, all parts are poisonous. If your cat ingests a toxic plant, do not delay in getting your pet to a veterinarian. Death can occur from nibbling even a small portion of a poisonous plant.



To help your cat adjust to the indoors, place a perch at a window. A room with a view is the best distraction. Screened porches make excellent play areas for cats. Some people even build large, screened enclosures for their cats, but you don't need to go to that extent to make your feline a happy indoor inhabitant. Cats can learn to enjoy a safe, indoor life with a little encouragement from their friends.

When your cat must go outside of the house- trips to the vet., family move, etc., make sure he or she is in a sturdy cat carrier and is wearing a current identification tag on a breakaway safety collar. The single greatest threat to a cat is the great outdoors. Eliminate this environment and you will have a safer, healthier cat.



*Fostering a sentiment of kindness to animals*  
P.O. Box 340, Charles Town, WV 25414-0340  
304-725-0506 • [www.nhes.org](http://www.nhes.org)



Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary, New York  
12752 State Hwy. 206  
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Briggs Animal Adoption Center  
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*Presented by The National Humane Education Society*



# Keep Your Cat Indoors



Traffic, traps, poisoning and cruel people are just a few of the dangers that can kill or injure outdoor cats. Disease and parasites are much easier to avoid when a cat stays indoors. Cats that are not spayed and neutered and are allowed to roam will mate and create MORE cats that will either die agonizing deaths on the street or be killed in shelters because there are not enough homes for them. Outside dangers are so prevalent that the average lifespan for a free-roaming cat is just a little more than one year, whereas an indoor cat's average lifespan is fourteen to twenty years.

More reasons to keep Tabby inside:

- ♥ Animal control personnel pick up stray animals – don't allow your pet to become an added burden to this agency

- ♥ Cats can get lost



♥ Other animals may attack your cat



- ♥ Your cat may come in contact with a rabid animal
- ♥ Free-roaming cats are natural predators to certain wildlife

Cats are quite content and happy indoors. To help them adjust, provide them with:

- ♥ A scratching post or cat tree
- ♥ A few safe toys
- ♥ A window perch
- ♥ An empty paper grocery bag or empty cardboard box
- ♥ A radio tuned to a classical music station – volume low

With these items, you will find that you have easily created a built-in kitty playroom!

You may also want to try one or more of the following sprouts in a pet garden to provide some greenery for your feline:

- ♥ oat grass
- ♥ wheat grass
- ♥ rye grass
- ♥ parsley
- ♥ plain grass
- ♥ catnip
- ♥ leaf lettuce



Nibbling on leaves and grass

helps remove hairballs and aids in the digestive process. Remember, however, to keep all other houseplants out of reach, since many plants may be toxic, such as dieffenbachia, ivy – all varieties, lilies of the valley, poinsettia, caladium, cala lilies, oleander, primroses, philodendrons and rhododendrons. This list is a collection of common toxic plants. It is NOT a list of ALL poisonous plants. In some vegetation, only certain parts of the plants are toxic.