

## **Litter box Rules**

Goal is to make your cat's litter boxes as attractive and pleasant as possible, so he or she will WANT to use them.

**Important:** Make sure you use **special enzymatic urine cleaner** for pet urine stains on all accidents on your carpet/ furniture, etc. Use per label directions. The enzymes break down the protein in the urine so that your cat can't smell it. If he/she can smell urine/stool, he/she will continue to urinate/defecate in that spot. Cats have a much better sense of smell, so even if you can't smell it, they probably can.

EX. Urine Off, Anti-icky Poo (on the internet), Nature's Miracle, Petastic, and others.

In addition to above, consider these methods to deter cats from favorite accident locations:

- spraying previous accident areas with Feliaway anti-anxiety pheromone spray.
- putting food and water bowl over location.
- placing heavy cover of plastic or furniture over area to deter access

### Number and kind of boxes:

-Must have number of cats plus 1 in number of litter boxes. Example: 2 cat household needs 3 litter boxes. One cat household needs 2 litter boxes.

-Do not cover litter boxes, this traps smells in and cats don't like this.

-Consider getting oversized litter box, like a plastic sweater storage box.

-Replace all litter boxes yearly.

### Litter type and cleaning:

-Clean/scoop out litter boxes at least once a day.

-Change litter and wash box weekly, do not use strong smelling cleaners.

-Depth of litter should be about 2 inches.

-Use unscented litter. Most cats like clumping litter, but you can try experimenting with pine litter, regular litter, crystals, etc.

### Location of litter boxes:

-Ideal is semi-private area, but not stashed far away in corner of basement (where cat has to walk a long way to access it). Use a place you notice every day so that it is cleaned often enough.

-Make sure dog, children, other cats aren't ambushing cat on the way to or while using the litter box. Make sure no loud noises, buzzers, etc. can disturb the cat while using the box.

- Each floor of the house needs to have at least one litter box.