

PLEASANT VETERINARY VISITS FOR YOUR CAT

Fear is the primary cause of misbehavior. There are several steps to take to help prevent problematic veterinary visits.

Keep the carrier out at home and put treats inside it on a regular basis. This can help train your cat to view the carrier as a safe haven. Carriers that have both a top and a front opening are best. Top loading carriers allow for easier placement and removal of your cat from the carrier.

Try to get your new kitten used to car rides. Always use a pet carrier. Take your kitten for multiple short rides to places other than the veterinary clinic. Don't feed your cat prior to rides to help prevent car sickness. Use verbal as well as food rewards.

To have a more pleasant veterinary visit, bring along your cat's favorite treats, toys and a blanket. At home, get your cat used to some of the things we do during an exam- checking their ears, teeth and touching their feet and stomach. You can also trim their nails, brush their teeth and learn how to pill your cat. These things may help make your visit less stressful.