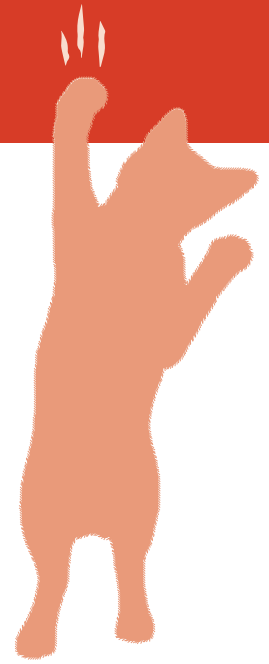


# Cat Scratching Habits **WHAT TO DO?**



Cats like to scratch.

## **WHEN?**

- They are playing.
- They are stretching.
- They are marking territory.
- They are creating threatening signals to other cats.
- They are removing frayed, worn outer claws.

...Scratching can cause a lot of damage to furniture, drapes, and carpeting!

## **WHAT TO DO?**

- Do not try to stop your cat from scratching.
- Teach them where and what to scratch.
- Provide them with appropriate, cat-attractive surfaces to scratch.

## **WHAT STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE?**

- Provide scratching posts with different qualities and surfaces.
- Give your cat posts made of cardboard, carpeting, wood, sisal, and upholstery.
- Try vertical, horizontal, and slanted posts, as cats have different preferences.
- Provide additional posts in various locations.

## **ADDITIONAL TIPS**

Encourage your cat to investigate posts by scenting them with catnip, hanging toys on them and placing them in areas where they will be inclined to climb them.

Discourage inappropriate scratching by removing or covering other desirable objects. Place scratching posts next to these objects, as “legal” alternatives.

Clip your cat’s nails regularly.

Consider putting plastic caps on your cat’s claws so that they won’t do damage if they scratch on something in your home.

If you need help, don’t hesitate to call us!

