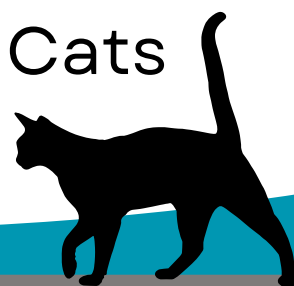


THINGS TO EXPECT

When Introducing Cats



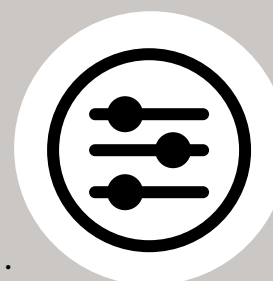
IT TAKES TIME



- For YOU to figure out what you're doing
- For THEM to figure it what you're doing
- To see change (Weeks or months is not unusual!!)
- To get used to the new normal and for this to feel natural and familiar

ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE NEEDED

- You'll begin with a standard approach, but will almost always have to tweak things to suit your home, abilities, cats, etc. Though tweaks can feel like regression, they're actually progression!
- Avoid changing anything without express approval. Certain adjustments might seem right to you, but it's important to follow the plan EXACTLY as instructed.



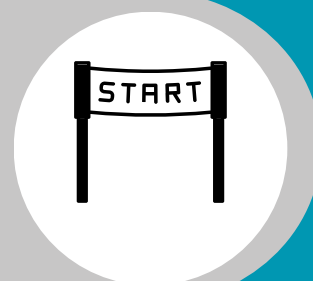
THINGS TO AVOID



- Never confine or restrain one so the other can investigate them
- Never let them "work it out"
- Never punish or scold hisses, growls, or swats
- Never prevent the option to hide
- Never allow accidental meetings - keep a door closed between them when you can't supervise (eg: out of the house, asleep, etc.)

THE BEGINNING IS THE HARDEST PART

Setting up the separation point and adjusting to change can feel overwhelming for some; this is normal! But, it DOES get easier if you stick with it



THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES



- Cats are sentient beings with thoughts and feelings
- We can't MAKE cats who really dislike each other into friends
- We can only try our best and see how it goes
- All your effort may not yield what you want, but you WILL know you tried everything possible

CHECK-INS ARE NECESSARY

- Behavior is not static. Your cats' situation is constantly evolving, and the behavior plan needs to as well
- Without regular contact, a new assessment may be needed to get your consultant back up to speed. This costs unnecessary time and money
- We will want to progress ASAP to avoid unnecessary delay and we will want to cease doing something incorrect ASAP to prevent developing bad habits or detrimental learning.

