

Litter Box Training Help

→ Litter box issues are a leading factor in why cats are returned to shelters, so here are some tips & tricks to share with new adopters to help ease their transition home.



No. 1

The first few days home are the most stressful. In addition to feeding a consistent diet, it may help to **keep the new cat in a smaller space** at first (with food and a litter box, of course).



No. 2

Some cats don't like hoods on their litter boxes. If a cat is having trouble using a covered box, suggest the owners remove the top.



No. 4

Cats are clean creatures, so scoop solids and clumps daily to ensure they have a clean place to do their business. Some cats may refuse to use a soiled box.

No. 3

If the litter box needs to move locations in a house, do so slowly, moving it no more than a few inches to a foot per day until it ends up in its new location. **Suddenly moving the box can cause cats to soil** where the box used to be, or simply not be able to find it.

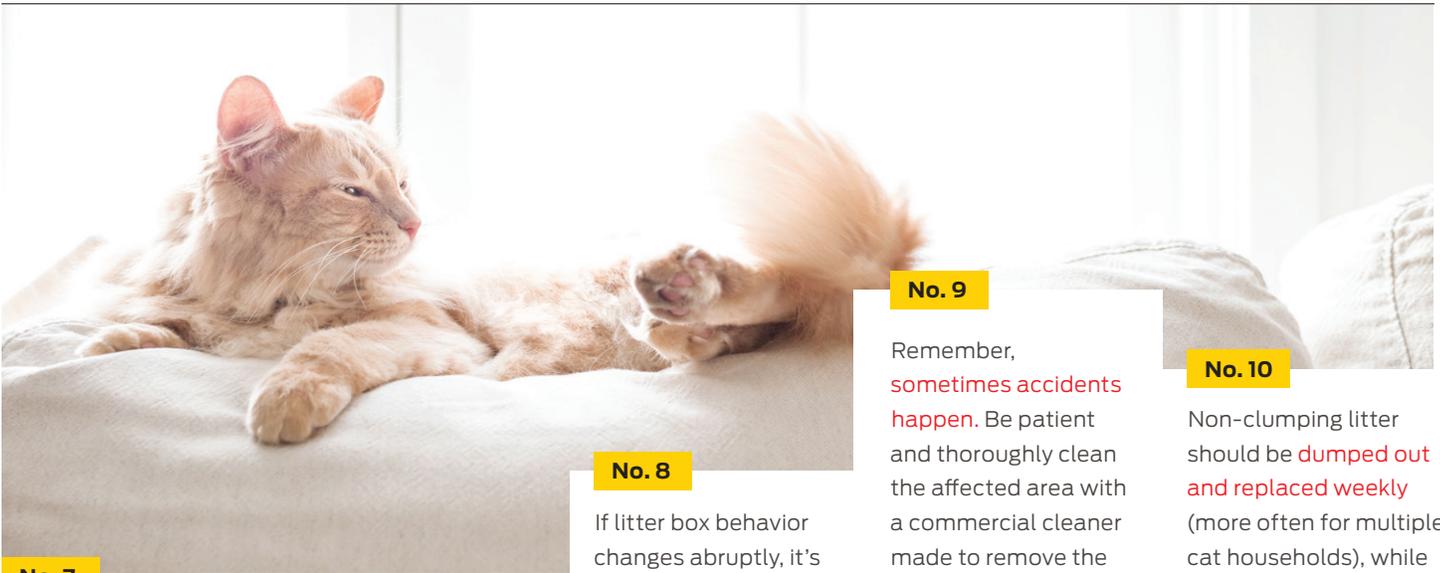


No. 5

Place the litter box in a low-traffic area that's **quiet and easy to access.** For multi-level homes, consider having a box on each floor.

No. 6

For multiple cat households, it's best to have **one box per cat, plus one.** So that's three boxes for two cats, and so on.



No. 7

If a cat is kicking out excessive amounts of litter, or eliminating on the sides of the box, **it's possible the box is too small**. Advise they try a larger box to see if the cat prefers more space.

No. 8

If litter box behavior changes abruptly, it's important to take the cat to the veterinarian to **eliminate an underlying health problem**.

No. 9

Remember, **sometimes accidents happen**. Be patient and thoroughly clean the affected area with a commercial cleaner made to remove the scent, which will help prevent cats from returning to this spot and having continued accidents.

No. 10

Non-clumping litter should be **dumped out and replaced weekly** (more often for multiple cat households), while clumping litter should be fully replaced monthly. Be sure to wash the box out at this time for a fresh start.



→ It's also common for non-clumping litter to be used at an adoption facility, while the majority of adopters prefer to use clumping litter. A slow transition to a new litter will help cats adjust easier, minimizing the chance of litter box rejection and unwanted accidents.



Recommend that new adopters **get a small bag of non-clumping litter to mix** in with their preferred clumping litter.

Simply add a little more new litter and a little less old litter **over the course of 3-5 days**, until the box is filled with just the new litter.

If you use Tidy Cats® non-clumping litter at your facility, **recommend adopters try the Tidy Cats® clumping equivalent** of that litter to help increase success of transitioning (such as, transition from non-clumping 24/7 Performance to clumping 24/7 Performance).