

Paws4Life, Inc.

Being Part of the Solution

Feline Adoption Application

Applicant Information:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Age: _____

Number of People in Household: _____

Children: Y N Ages: _____

Are you interested in adopting this cat/kitten for yourself, a friend, or a family member?

How did you learn about this cat/kitten: _____

Do you or does anyone living in the home smoke: Y N

Is anyone in the home allergic to cats: Y N

Number of other animals in home: _____ What Types of Animals: _____

Do you own any animal that mainly lives outside but is allowed in the house at times? Y N

What Types Animals: _____

Do ALL your animals see the vet on an annual basis for checkups: Y N

Are they ALL current on vaccinations: Y N

Have they ALL been spayed/neutered: Y N

If cats, are they declawed: Y N

What are your thoughts on declawing &/or will you declaw this cat/kitten: Y N

Will this cat/kitten be indoors only, outdoors only, indoor/outdoor: (Circle one)

How many hours during the day will cat/kitten be left alone: _____

Have you had other pets in the past that are no longer with you? Y N

If so, how old were they & what happened to them: _____

Have you ever surrendered a pet to the pound or animal control? Y N

If so, what was the reason: _____

General Information:

Type of Residence: _____

Own/Rent/Lease: _____

If rent, may I contact Landlord to confirm allowance of pets: Y N

Is there someone at the home during the day: Y N

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Employer Phone: _____

May I contact your employer to confirm employment: Y N

Do you travel extensively: Y N

Do you have plans to go out of town in the next 3 months: Y N

If you go away on vacation, who will take care of the cat(s)/kitten(s): _____

If you move will you take cat(s)/kitten(s) with you: Y N

References:

Name of Veterinarian: _____

Office Location: _____

Phone # of Veterinarian: _____

Personal Reference 1: _____

Personal Reference Phone: _____

Personal Reference E-mail: _____

Personal Reference 2: _____

Personal Reference Phone: _____

Personal Reference E-mail: _____

Are you willing to sign a contract upon application approval & will you allow a home visit & a check of your personal/vet references prior to adoption approval: Y N

****Some Important Information Regarding Declawing****

Written by Veterinarian, Dr. Christianne Schelling

If you are considering declawing your cat, please read this. It will only take a moment, and it will give you valuable information to help you in your decision.

First, you should know that declawing is pretty much an American thing, it's something people do for their own convenience without realizing what actually happens to their beloved cat. In England declawing is termed "inhumane" and "unnecessary mutilation." I agree. In many European countries it is illegal. I applaud their attitude.

Before you make the decision to declaw your cat, there are some important facts you should know. Declawing is not like a manicure. It is serious surgery. Your cat's claw is *not* a toenail. It is actually closely adhered to the bone, so closely adhered that to remove the claw, the last bone of the cat's claw has to be removed. Declawing is actually an amputation of the last joint of your cat's "toes". When you envision that, it becomes clear why declawing is not a humane act. It is a painful surgery, with a painful recovery period. And remember that during the time of recuperation from the surgery your cat would still have to use its feet to walk, jump, and scratch in its litter box regardless of the pain it is experiencing. Wheelchairs and bedpans are not an option for a cat.

No cat lover would doubt that cats--whose senses are much keener than ours--suffer pain. They may, however, hide it better. Not only are they proud, they instinctively know that they are at risk when in a weakened position, and by nature will attempt to hide it. But make no mistake. This is not a surgery to be taken lightly.

Your cat's body is perfectly designed to give it the grace, agility and beauty that is unique to felines. Its claws are an important part of this design. Amputating the important part of their anatomy that contains the claws drastically alters the conformation of their feet. The cat is also deprived of its primary means of defense, leaving it prey to predators if it ever escapes to the outdoors. I have also had people tell me that their cat's personality changed after being declawed.

Okay, so now you realize that declawing is too drastic a solution, but you're still concerned about keeping your household furnishings intact. Is there an acceptable solution? Happily, the answer is yes. A big, joyful, humane YES! Actually there are several. The following website "[Cat Scratching Solutions](#)" provides many solutions as well as and insight into the psychology of why cats scratch. You can teach your cat to use a scratching post ([sisal posts](#) are by far the best). You can trim the front claws. You can also employ aversion methods. One of the best solutions I've found is Soft Paws®.

Soft Paws are lightweight vinyl nail caps that you glue on the cat's front claws. They're great for households with small children and are extremely useful for people who are away from home all day and can't exercise the watchfulness necessary to train a cat to use a scratching post. Soft Paws® are easy to apply and last about four to six weeks. They come in clear or colors--which are really fun. Now *that's* a kitty manicure! The colored caps look spiffy on Tabby or Tom and have the added advantage of being more visible when one finally comes off. Then you simply replace it. You can find Soft Paws® on the web or by calling 1-800-989-2542.