



BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

My cat is urinating inappropriately what should I do?

There are many causes of inappropriate urination in cats. Many cats may have a medical condition, for instance, a urinary tract infection or crystals in the urine, which can cause discomfort and can lead to inappropriate urination. Sometimes, cats will urinate outside the litter box for behavioral reasons. To determine if it is a medical condition we can check your some urine from your cat to see if there are any problems.

If the urinalysis is normal then it is most likely a behavioral problem. One of the big things to consider is has there been any changes in the household or the cat routine recently? Are there new people or pets in the household? Are you using a different type of litter. Cats can be very particular about changes in types of litter, using a litter with a fragrance, adding a litter box that has a cover, or not cleaning the litter box frequently enough. The appropriate number of litter boxes is important as well. There should be one litter box per cat in the household plus 1 extra. For instance, if you have 3 cats then you should have 4 litter boxes.

If you are having behavioral problems it is important to try and determine what is causing the stress or anxiety for your pet. You can use things like “Feliway” to help decrease the anxiety for your cat. Addressing all litter box issues and making sure the litter box is always clean. Clean all areas with a pet enzymatic cleaner to remove all smells so that cat doesn’t continue to go in the same location. For more helpful ideas you can call our office.

How can I keep my puppy from urinating all over the house?

The most important things you can do to potty train your puppy is be consistent and use positive reinforcement. Take your puppy out frequently especially after eating and when they first get up in the morning. Try and take your puppy to the same location to go potty and try and set up a routine that allows you to take your puppy out around the same times each day. Use simple commands like “go potty” and always praise and reward your puppy when they do what you have asked. It is helpful to use a crate to keep your puppy in at night and when you are away. The puppy is less likely to urinate or defecate in the area where it sleeps. If you have more questions about potty training please give our office a call.

For more information on behavioral problems and socialization please visit:

www.oregonvma.org/care-health/behavior-and-socialization