



## Cat Safety Tips

- Kitten proof your home by removing breakables and items that can harm a kitten.
- Always put wand toys away in a secure cupboard or closet when not in use. If left unsupervised, the string on a wand toy can lead to strangulation and death.
- Keep garbage cans out of reach and secure. Bones, strings and other waste left in the garbage can cause intestinal blockages leading to huge vet bills and even death.
- Many plants and flowers are toxic to cats. Lilies are particularly toxic and can be deadly if eaten. For more information on household and garden plants, consult one of the many websites available for a comprehensive list of plants with toxic effects for cats. You can find the APSCA's list at <http://www.asPCA.org/Pet-care/poison-control/Plants>.
- Plastic bags are dangerous for cats as they can lead to suffocation. Keep plastic grocery bags and the like safely stored and out of reach of your pets.
- If your cat likes to play in paper bags, remove the handles to prevent accidental strangulation.
- Keep toxic household products, including medications and pharmaceuticals, cleaning products, anti-freeze, and paint out of reach. Store these items properly and safely.
- Be sure to protect your pet from pesticides.
- Venetian blinds and curtain cords can cause death by strangulation. Shorten these strings and place out of reach.
- Tinsel and electrical cords also pose hazards. Keep these items out of reach of your pets.
- Be cautious when using reclining chairs. Cats often like to lay under the foot rest when extended. Take care when collapsing the foot rest, making sure no cats are beneath.
- If your cat wears a collar, make sure it is a 'break-away' type. Break-away collars are designed to safely undo or "break away" if your cat should ever get caught or snagged on something.
- Remember: any cat on a leash and harness requires supervision 100% of the time.