



## Keeping Your Cat Indoors

*Since keeping cats indoors is safest for them, it's important to provide them with mental and physical stimulation to prevent boredom. Providing toys, scratching posts, and interactive play can help keep indoor cats mentally and physically active. If you want your cat to experience the outdoors, consider building a cat enclosure or carrier training to let them happily experience the outdoors in a carrier.*

### Why is it Safest to Keep Your Cat(s) Indoors?

**Protection from Predators** Cats that roam outdoors are exposed to various dangers, including predators such as coyotes, dogs, and birds of prey. Outdoor cats are more vulnerable to attacks, injuries, and diseases that can be transmitted by other wildlife.

**Traffic Hazards Outdoor** Cats are at risk of being hit by cars, which is a common cause of injury and death for cats that venture outside.

**Hazardous Food** Besides the risks of being injured by traffic or wild animals, humans are also a concern. Not all people are kind to outdoor cats, and some people will give out spoiled or poisoned food. Additionally, cats may find spoiled food or poison even if it was left out unintentionally.

**Disease Prevention** Outdoor cats are more likely to come into contact with other cats and wildlife, increasing their risk of contracting diseases like feline leukemia (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV).

**Parasites** Outdoor cats are more prone to parasitic infestations, such as fleas, ticks, and worms. These parasites can cause health issues and discomfort for the cat. Parasites can also be brought into your home from outside and spread to humans.

**Poisonous Plants and Substances** Cats that roam outdoors may ingest toxic plants or substances. Keeping them indoors ensures they are not exposed to these hazards.

**Environmental Hazards** Cats can get trapped in sheds, garages, or other structures, especially in extreme weather conditions. Indoor cats are not exposed to these risks.

**Longevity** Indoor cats tend to live longer on average than outdoor cats due to the reduced risks of accidents, injuries, and diseases.