



Feline Behavior Assessments

The goal of the Fairfax Pets On Wheels Feline Behavior Assessment is to determine how the cat/handler team will react to and cope with the pressures of the nursing home environment they will visit.

The team evaluation begins at the time the handler and pet walk through the door for their appointment. How the cat interacts with the other pets to be evaluated, the handler's awareness and control of the cat, and whether the cat is or becomes comfortable with the environment are taken into account.

In addition to observing the cat's comfort level around medical equipment, the evaluator will observe the cat's reaction to loud noises and being lightly pinched and having its tail and ears gently pulled. Handlers must have good control of their cats at all times.

Owners should print and complete "Feline Behavior Assessment Part 1" (pages 2 and 3) and bring it to your behavior assessment appointment.

To assist you in preparing for the assessment, you may want to review and print the form our testers will use (Pages 4-7) to evaluate your cat.

FAIRFAX PETS ON WHEELS, Inc.
FELINE Behavior Assessment
Part 1: to be completed by Owner/Handler

OWNER INFORMATION
Owner's Name:
Street Address:
City/State/Zip:
Day Phone:
Evening Phone:
Cell Phone:
E Mail:
HANDLER INFORMATION (if handler other than owner)
Handler Name:
Street Address:
City/State/Zip:
Day Phone:
Evening Phone:
Cell Phone:
E Mail:
CAT INFORMATION
Name:
Breed:
Gender (please circle): M F
Spayed/Neutered (please circle): Y N
Color:
Age:
PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR CAT:
<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly
<input type="checkbox"/> Approaches strangers
<input type="checkbox"/> Seeks companionship
<input type="checkbox"/> Prefers to isolate him or herself
<input type="checkbox"/> Travels well
<input type="checkbox"/> Wears collar/harness and leash w/out objection
<input type="checkbox"/> Lives with other animals
<input type="checkbox"/> Dislikes other animals
<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor cat
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor cat
<input type="checkbox"/> Playful/feisty
<input type="checkbox"/> Couch potato
(over)

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FELINE Behavior Assessment
Part 1: to be completed by Owner/Handler

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR CAT:
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap cat
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys being petted
<input type="checkbox"/> Affectionate/spontaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> When annoyed, swats or bites
<input type="checkbox"/> Growls/hisses when provoked
<input type="checkbox"/> Leash trained
<input type="checkbox"/> Comes when called
<input type="checkbox"/> Knows his/her name
<input type="checkbox"/> Gets into carrier without a struggle
<input type="checkbox"/> Explores new environments
<input type="checkbox"/> Cowers, hides in strange places
<input type="checkbox"/> Declawed
<input type="checkbox"/> Seldom uses claws
<input type="checkbox"/> Nails trimmed regularly
<input type="checkbox"/> Gives signals when uncomfortable
<input type="checkbox"/> Likes to be carried around
<input type="checkbox"/> Likes to snuggle
1) Has your cat ever bitten or nipped anyone? If yes, Describe
2) Has your cat been quarantined for any reason ? If yes, Describe
3) Do you know of any reason or behavior that may preclude or limit your cat from performing functions as a Fairfax Pets on Wheels volunteer? If yes, Describe
4) Other comments you may wish to share, (optional)
Signature:
Date:
Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form and for volunteering for this program.

Fairfax Pets on Wheels FELINE
Behavior Assessment
Part 2: to be completed by Evaluator

Pet Name:	Evaluator:
Breed:	Evaluation Date:
Owner Name:	Evaluation Location:

I. EQUIPMENT CHECK & APPEARANCE	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
a. Cat is wearing equipment permitted for visiting by FPOW Acceptable: Collar/harness and leash are on FPOW approved list Unacceptable: Collar/harness and leash are not on FPOW approved list		
b. Cat is clean, well groomed / Nails are Clipped Acceptable: Clean, well groomed, including nails Unacceptable: Dirty, matted coat, unpleasant odor and/or open sores/skin lesions, stitches and other conditions that make it unpleasant for residents to touch the animal		

II. SKILLS EXERCISE *Please rate this section at the end of the behavior evaluation	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
a. Evaluator approaches cat and calmly pets it multiple times throughout the evaluation: Acceptable: Calm, sniffing, hackles normal, licks hand, enjoys petting, indifferent, submissive, aloof, rolling on back, purrs, head rubbing/butting, paw kneading Unacceptable: Any signs of aggression, e.g. growling, hissing, spitting, paw swatting, biting, raises hackles, panics or attempts to flee, struggles to get away;		

Fairfax Pets on Wheels FELINE
Behavior Assessment
Part 2: to be completed by Evaluator

II. SKILLS EXERCISE - (CONTINUED)	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>b. Touch Sensitivity - Evaluator makes contact with cat and touches sensitive areas, e.g.: light pinch on ears, holds a paw, gentle tail tug, or other sensitive areas, light tugging on collar/harness, clumsy petting & body hugging. Acceptable: Cat reacts ticklish, moves away, pulls paw away, but is forgiving; doesn't show any reaction, is curious and checks what Evaluator is doing Unacceptable: Any signs of aggression, e.g. growling, hissing, spitting, paw swatting, biting, raises hackles, panics or attempts to flee, struggles to get away;</p>		
<p>c. Reaction to Equipment - Evaluator and helper stage two visiting situations with wheelchair and walker. 1. Handler and Cat approach person in wheelchair and walker 2. Person in wheelchair and walker approach Handler and Cat Acceptable: Remains calm when approaching appliances and trusting of handler, remains calm when appliances approach and trusting of handler, a little cautious at first, but settles, indifferent, signs of minimal stress (considers fleeing but is calmed by handler) Unacceptable: Any sign of aggressive behavior, persistent fear and/or flee response, excessive pulling away from object</p>		
<p>d. Good Manners - Owner demonstrates their visiting technique with cat. Acceptable: Cat responsive to owner, walks on leash -OR- is content to be carried -OR- content to ride in basket, indifferent, displays curiosity, sits on handler's lap -OR- willing to sit on evaluator's lap, relaxed, content; plays with toy, purrs, paw kneading, head rubbing/butting Unacceptable: Cat is hard to control; cat overly difficult to handle e.g. handler unable to control cat walking between two locations in room, cat constantly jumps down, wriggles out of handlers arms multiple times;</p>		

Fairfax Pets on Wheels FELINE
Behavior Assessment
Part 2: to be completed by Evaluator

Pet Name:

Evaluator:

II. SKILLS EXERCISE - (CONTINUED)	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>e. Reaction to Neutral Dog: Helper takes "neutral dog" and proceeds to move close enough to cat handler that the cat sees "neutral dog". After visual contact, both parties move on. Acceptable: Cat may try to meet "neutral dog", but handler must keep good control, cat expresses dislike of "neutral dog" but remains under handler control, no reaction, tries to hide without fleeing; Unacceptable: Cat being evaluated flees causing handler to lose control, displays aggressive reaction (to handler, evaluator, or directly toward "neutral dog"); spitting, paw swatting</p>		
<p>f. Evaluator makes loud noise like tossing clipboard or pebble can on floor Acceptable: Cowers, startles, tries to hide, does nothing, remains in control of the handler; Unacceptable: Cat panics or tries to flee, unable to calm down after noise event;</p>		

III. Evaluator's Opinion NOTE: An Unacceptable rating in any section other than Section I (Equipment and Appearance) results in a Not Recommended rating	Rating A = Acceptable U = Unacceptable	EVALUATOR COMMENTS
<p>After reading the handler's completed questionnaire and observing the handler/cat team's action and reactions during the practical evaluation, this team is: <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended for an on-site pilot tour <input type="checkbox"/> Not Presently Recommended, but recommended for re-testing at a later date - REQUIRES EVALUATOR COMMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended - REQUIRES EVALUATOR COMMENTS</p>		

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Behavior Assessment
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General Comments

Recommendations & Training

Evaluator's Name: _____

Evaluator's Signature _____

Date: _____

Evaluator has reviewed the test and this form with me: _____

Volunteer's Name: _____

Volunteer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Nursing Home to begin visiting: _____