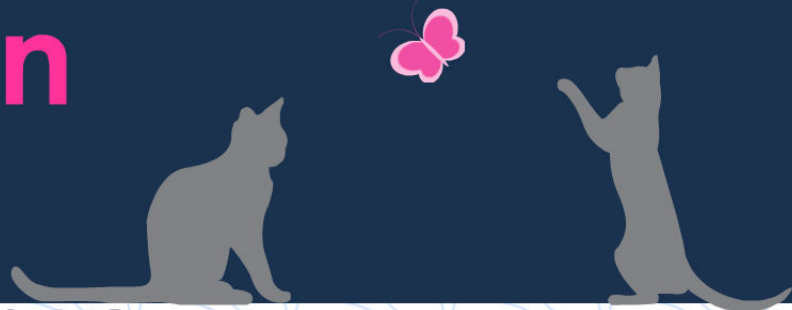


Weight Loss in Cats



How can I help my cat lose weight?

Weight loss should be accomplished slowly-over 6 months to a year. Light diets from a pet store usually have about 15% less calories than regular diets. If your cat is on a regular diet, try feeding the same amount of a light diet and monitor the weight. Often you will need to further decrease the amount of food they are getting. Do it slowly. Diets that creep up on you are more likely to be successful. Remember, dieting is not a race. You only have to cross the finish line

Diet Considerations

One aspect of dieting that is specific to cats is their pre-disposition to fatty liver disease. Cats that are not eating will start to metabolize their fat stores. These fats make their way to the liver where they are processed. Too much fat will cause the liver to malfunction causing jaundice and further inappetance. This can lead to serious complications. Another aspect of dieting that is specific to cats is that they will lose weight faster on canned food. Canned food is approximately one third the calories of an equal amount of dry food.

What should I feed my cat?

My favourite food for weight loss is Hill's Metabolic Advanced diet. This diet is unique because it activates the genes in the body that regulate metabolism. Measuring your cats head, legs and body will let us gauge how much food you should give. Any sudden changes in diet can cause intestinal upsets so wean your cat onto the new diet over the course of 10 days by adding small handfuls into their dish.