



Behavior Evaluation for Inappropriate Elimination in Cats

There is a direct correlation between mental health and physical health. Stress takes its toll on the health of cats; research has demonstrated an increase in sickness behaviors associated with stressful events.

Acute signs of stress include crouching, shaking, tail close to the body, dilated eyes, hissing and growling. These signs may be a result of a specific incident or threat.

Signs of chronic stress may develop over a long period of time, and can be more subtle. These include hiding and social withdrawal, over-grooming and inappropriate urination. Cats with chronic stress can appear nervous, be more fearful than other cats in the house and more prone to hide from visitors.

With that in mind, cats urinating outside of the litter box need a complete behavioral evaluation in order to develop a successful treatment plan. Please answer the following questions, give as much detail as possible.

Owner's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Cat's Name: _____ **Age:** _____ **M** **MN** **F** **FS**

1. Is your cat urinating, defecating, or both outside the box? _____
2. How long has your cat been urinating/defecating outside the box? _____
3. Where is your cat eliminating? What type of surface (i.e. hard floor, carpet, leather couch, etc.)?

4. What type of litter do you use? Please list brand and type (i.e. clumping, odor control, multi cat, etc.).

5. How often do you clean the litter box? _____
6. How many litter boxes do you have and where are they located? _____
7. How many cats and other pets live in the house (please list all)? _____

8. Describe your cat's relationship with people. Does your cat run and hide when guests come over? Does your cat like any family members more than others? _____

9. What opportunities for enrichment are available? List how long and when you have interactive play with your cat, how many cat towers, scratching posts, and toys (which type) are available.

10. What escape and hiding areas are available for your cat?

11. How does your cat share the space?

12. Does your cat get chased, hissed at or growled at by other cats in the home?

13. Does your cat chase, hiss at or growl at other cats in the home?

14. How often does your cat appear in all rooms of the house?

15. Does this cat spend all its time in just one room? If so, which room?
