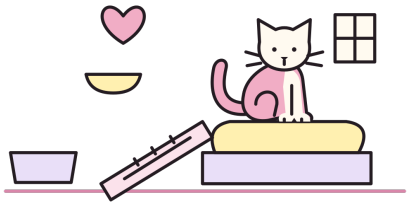
Caring for a senior cat

Easy access, familiar comforts, and a little closer attention.



Comfort starts with knowing your cat

Older cats have different needs. Changes in appetite, movement, grooming, or behavior deserve a vet conversation; do not assume they are simply old age.

Have these ready

- [ ] Low-entry, easy-to-reach litter box
- [ ] Soft bed and stable, nonslip steps or ramp
- [ ] Food and water in accessible places
- [ ] Care records and notes for the vet

01 Keep the essentials close

- [ ] Offer a low-entry litter box in an accessible, quiet place.
- [ ] Use stable, nonslip steps or a ramp to favorite resting spots.

02 Make room for gentle routines

- [ ] Offer gentle play at your cat's pace, with time to rest.
- [ ] Brush gently if welcome; ask for help with mats or painful grooming.

03 Notice what changes

- [ ] Write down changes in appetite, thirst, grooming, or behavior.
- [ ] Share short videos of changes in walking or jumping with your vet.

04 Make a plan with your vet

- [ ] Bring care records, current medications, and your observations.
- [ ] Discuss food, weight, comfort, and any tests your vet recommends.

Notes for your next vet visit

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Ask your vet

- [ ] How often should we check health, weight, and comfort?
- [ ] Could a change in movement or habits signal pain or illness?
- [ ] Does the food, home setup, or care plan need adjusting?

What have you noticed?

Appetite, drinking, and litter

Walking, jumping, and grooming

Sleep, play, and behavior

Care is individual

Do not change prescribed diets or medicines without your vet's guidance.

Sources & full guide

Cat Friendly Homes · Senior care

Cornell Feline Health · Loving care for older cats

Cornell Feline Health · The special needs of the senior cat

www.straykitty.org/guides/caring-for-a-senior-cat

General guidance, not an individual veterinary care plan. Use the full online guide for context and current source links.