



Clump Champion

By World's Best Cat Litter

Naturally absorbent whole-kernel corn enables World's Best Cat Litter to clump faster than other clumping litters-so you use less litter in the long run. A small bag can last one cat for over four weeks.

www.worldsbestcatlitter.com.



Red Letter

By PETCO

Covered Cat Bed (Red Leaf). A cozy place to sleep, play or simply hide away. This bed is made from a sturdy cotton twill shell, faux sherpa lining and generously stuffed with 100% recycled polyester fibers. The dangling pompom provides a little extra amusement while lounging. 12x16x16.5 inches; \$24.99 at PETCO stores or at www.PETCO.com.



Geared Up

By Pet Gear Inc.

The 5-in-one I GO 2 Plus Traveler has a telescoping handle with wheels to function as a rolling case. Can be used as a backpack, tote or car seat and meets most airline travel regulation. Comes with removable plush pad for easy washing, tether to secure animal and wheel cover. www.petgearinc.com.

Wood Chuck® with Orbee-Tuff® RecycleBALL®

By Planet Dog

Engineered with sustainable bamboo and reused cork scraps. Throws the distance, naturally. A sleek take on other ball-tossing devices, Wood Chuck® bamboo core offers strength and maximum chuck-ability with an ergonomic cork handle for comfort and grip-ability throw, after throw, after throw. www.planetdog.com.



Spider Biter

By JW Pets

The JW Arachnoid Ball is a cutting-edge, squeaky, bouncy, rubbery, eye-catching creation from the JW team. The natural rubber webbed design surrounds the squeaky toy inside, for long lasting squeaky fun. This impressive spider -webbed wonder ball is a guaranteed- to-sell spectacular sensation. www.jwpets.com.

Introducing Fido to Fluffy

A funny thing happened on the way to get a goldfish...

By Susan Sims, PUBLISHER



Designer Catbox

By Designer Catbox

The Designer Catbox is a perfect solution to help keep your litter box concealed but easily accessible to your cats. This elegant piece of furniture is a stylish addition to any home but will also help to minimize odor and prevent litter from being kicked out onto the floor. www.designercatbox.com.



Ruff-a-stack

By Fisher-Price

Barking good news! Fisher-Price is unleashing their first ever line of pet toys. That's right—now, Fido and Milo can enjoy their very own classic Fisher-Price toys, just as children have for 80 years. Featured is Ruff-a-stack Peanut butter-scented chew toy. Available in two sizes. www.fisher-price.com.

Comfort Carrier

By Bergan

The carrier is made of durable material while offering a functional design. It is also airline compliant. The fleece travel bed is removable for easy wash. It features the new Pet Connect™ for comforting your pet on the go as well as a comfortable shoulder strap. A reflective strip on the end offers greater safety. Available in Green, Rose Wine, Mineral Blue and Black. Small and large sizes for pets up to 22 pounds. www.berganexperience.com.



Robocat

By Automated
Pet Care Products, Inc.

Wow! The future is here for all cat owners who want an efficient and green way to manage your kitty litter. The Litter-Robot™ gently separates the waste clumps from the clean litter. There is no rake mechanism that can get jammed or clogged or that needs frequent cleaning and maintenance. The Litter-Robot is a reliable, low maintenance automatic self cleaning cat litter box that works and keeps on working. www.litter-robot.com.



A small, white paw reached through the crate and tapped Junior on the head. "Oh, hello there." Junior's entire body smiled in acknowledgement.

As I moved closer to the crate, the black and white kitten sat still, her gaze intently resting on Junior's sweet Lab face.

This is very interesting, I thought. We came in to our local Petco to buy a goldfish, and I knew as sure as I was standing there that we would leave with this cat.

My husband, Greg, and I had not been owned by a cat in many years, and as all three of us—plus kitty—were getting to know each other in a private room, the thought crossed my mind that being owned by a cat again would be nice. The cat, which had the distinctive moniker of Josie (could those who named her have been thinking of Josie and the Pussycats of comic book fame?), lay rigid in the room while Junior wagged and weaved and slobbered on her head. Hmmmm, this looks like it is going well I decided. After all, the other incarcerated kitties hissed and arched their backs when Junior went near. Yes, this was going very well indeed.

Josie's story was a sad one. Found behind a trailer park at eight weeks old, the one-year-old cat had been at the shelter ever since. The last two months, however, repre-

sented a little more freedom, as she was now at Petco in larger confinement. “What gives,” we asked? Why was this adorable and tolerant kitty still not finding her forever home? Lorraine (from Nampa who donates her time and money every weekend looking for feline adopters) said it was because Josie did not like being held. But she did like being petted—both my husband and I could attest to that. And, Junior liked her. Heck, I think he was a little bit smitten by this kitten. Lorraine went on to say, “I guarantee that this cat will be walking around your house in no time at all and will want you to hold her.”

This cat needed a break, and we determined that we were just the couple to give it to her. Forty dollars for adoption plus the necessary items to house and feed a cat, and we were on our way home. A cat in a box; a dog in a crate; and a fish in a bag. Yes sir-ree, Noah’s Ark had nothing on us, and we smiled in silence. It was exciting to think, “We have a cat!”

Josie did not make a peep on the ride home. “This is great...” we both nodded and winked at each other. A traveling cat! We travel for a living, and perhaps, Josie would join our gypsy tribe, staying at four-star resorts, getting room service and living the life of Riley. Yes indeed, we picked the perfect cat.

Once home, Junior escorted the cardboard box that now held our new forever cat into her fresh digs. She would be ensconced in Junior’s room, a nice annex to our laundry room, and as we placed her on her bed that lay atop Junior’s crate, she preened and purred upon seeing her reflection in the glass window. Junior could not keep still and with one gazelle-like leap, he suddenly appeared on top of his wire crate and scared the living daylights out of everybody. Josie, who we were now calling Charley at this point, found her litter box with no problem, and quickly relieved herself. Nice going Junior, poor little kitty is hardly home a minute and you have terrorized her. To add insult to injury, Junior surreptitiously stole Charley’s new toy mouse. Sibling rivalry already?

Lorraine had instructed us to keep the door closed for the first night to let Charley become accustomed to her new surroundings. With Junior guarding the door, we bid Charley goodnight and went to bed.

In the morning Junior was awfully glad to see us as he wagged in excitement and pointed to the closed door as if to say,

TAZZEL-Dazzel

By **TAZZELS™** (patents pending)

from the Pedigree Collection are custom-made with beautiful .925 sterling silver and vibrant colorful diamond-cut aluminum beading on matching/coordinating silky jewel-tone decorative cord. Personalized with your pet’s name in .925 sterling silver. www.tazzels.com.



Collar & Lead

By **Lupine**

Lupine is committed to providing you a quality product you can count on year after year. Winners receive an adjustable collar and lead set in a pattern and size of your choosing. www.lupinepet.com.

Myriad Meows

By **Pattern & Paw**

Wake up, already! Pattern & Paw’s stylish dog and cat collars are handcrafted with high quality hardware and decorative ribbon in a myriad of prints and patterns. With over 200 dog and cat collar designs to choose from, you are sure to find that perfect pet collar to suit your bud’s unique personality. www.patternandpaw.com.



Prowl

By **The Honest Kitchen**

The Honest Kitchen’s first dehydrated raw cat food option. Prowl is a natural, cat food recipe specially formulated for even the fussiest of felines. A higher protein, grain-free cat food, this formula can stand alone or act as a base for your own homemade cat food diet. www.thehonestkitchen.com.



Natural Treats

By **Stella & Chewy’s**

To create their exceptional raw line of dinners and treats, Stella & Chewy’s starts with only wholesome ingredients like raw, natural meat, poultry or fish sourced from USDA-inspected facilities without added hormones or antibiotics. www.stellaandchewys.com

ChickadeeChirp™

By **SmartyKat**

Why is it that a perfectly well-fed domestic cat will stalk real and imaginary creepy crawlers or fluttery things like a hungry lion? Predatory instinct is written in a cat’s genetic code! Toys shaped like small prey such as the SmartyKat ChickadeeChirp™ touch-activated bird-sound toy that makes realistic bird sounds. www.worldwise.com.





Greener Pup

By Greener Pup

Every bed "designed with paws in mind." Bed fillers are actually made from 100% recycled plastic so every single Greener Pup bed saves 70-120 plastic bottles from being dumped in landfills! Even better, 100% of profits are donated to non-profit dog rescue, Ace of Hearts. www.greenerpup.com.

Animal Protection

By Rose Zellas Way

Why should humans be the only ones to enjoy jewelry? Ann gets a lot of mileage protecting her animals with energy and by the spirits, and is sharing with you her products that work so effectively. www.rosezellasway.com.



Goodbye Furballs

By Dyson

Dyson canister technology now designed to clean homes with pets. Patented Root Cyclone™ technology provides powerful constant suction. Additional tools and accessories are designed to remove dirt and pet hair from the home and car. www.dyson.com.



"Don't you guys know there is a kitty in there? That kitty is sure to be lonesome, and really guys, you need to let me in so I can make sure she is alright." Charley was alright, and she even acted as if she was glad to see us. She purred as we approached, and leaned in to be petted. Not bad, not bad at all.

The next few days were filled with rewards as each time we left the Dutch door ajar, Charley would investigate further until after three days, she apparently got the lay of the land and began roaming freely. She instigated each game of tag, always reaching higher ground when Junior was about to pounce. I became accustomed to hearing plops and thuds as in Charley's investigation, items were often knocked off shelves or "rearranged." One morning I found my Shakespeare collection, circa 1600, mysteriously out of order. Ordinarily lined up and with bindings facing forward, they were bumping in and out in a way that looked precarious at best. Placing the books back in order, I shrugged to myself and thought at the very least we had adopted a literary cat.

Charley now sleeps with Junior on his bed. They curl up together like an old married couple, close and comfortable. She allows us to hold her a little more every day. We don't want to rush it, so we take one day at a time. After all, Charley is now part of the family and we hope to have her with us for many years to come. Holding and cuddling will come in time, I guarantee it. ☺



Stay tuned... FIDO Meets Fluffy Contest Winners!

FIDO Friendly's publisher Susan Sims enlisted the aid of bloggers when her dog Junior adopted a cat. Be sure to pick up a copy of the January/February 2011 issue to read the winning essay, "Fido Meets Fluffy." For a sneak peek, read these essays online and see what they won—and who won the grand prize (ABOVE)! www.blog.fidofriendly.com.

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