



# COVID-19: What do cat parents need to know?

*Five important answers to your questions about how to keep your (fur) family healthy and happy!*

We know that as we all face the current global pandemic, you're worried about your family and friends and how to best care for your cats right now.

We are committed to helping cat parents through this challenge with answers to questions about healthcare and how to keep your cat as happy as possible.

## **1. Can my cats get sick with or transmit COVID-19?**

While some of what's been reported in the news about cats and COVID-19 has been confusing, at this time the World Health Organization has emphasized that there is no evidence pets can be a source of infection of COVID-19 or that they can become sick with this virus. It's not clear whether or not your cat's fur is a surface that could carry the virus, but to be on the safe side, read our sanitation tips below.

## 2. What can I do to keep my cat and my family healthy?

To minimize any possible risk, follow the same sanitation practices with your pet family members as with your human family members:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after each contact with your pet. (To mark the time, sing “What’s New, Pussycat?” in your head!)
2. Sneeze or cough into your arm rather than the environment.
3. Avoid kisses from your pet.
4. Wash your cat’s bedding and equipment regularly at hot temperatures.
5. Disinfect your cat’s litter box regularly.

## 3. Since everyone is staying at home, my cats behave differently. Why?

Cats can be very sensitive to small changes in the house. Maybe your cat is hiding or scratching the carpet or walls? These can be signs that your cat is stressed by the new situation.

With more people around, there’s less peace and quiet for your cat, and that can make it difficult for him to follow [his own routine](#).

Here are five FELIWAY tips to help your cat to cope with the new situation:

1. Create elevated hiding spaces for your cat. Your feline friend will love it!
2. Teach your kids not to disturb the kitty while he’s sleeping, eating or using the litter box.
3. Give your cat special treats from time to time.
4. Use a [FELIWAY CLASSIC Diffuser](#) to help your cat get comfortable with the new situation.
5. Don’t forget to play your cat’s favorite games!

Remember, 15 minutes of play every evening is better and more satisfying for your cat than 1 or 2 hours at a time every weekend.



#### **4. What can I do to keep my cat and myself happy in uncertain times?**

Try not to panic! Stress is not good for anyone's health. Your cat will feel your worries and will suffer, too.

If possible, keep up the most of your daily routines. Cuddling, playing and spending mindful moments together with your beloved family is still the best therapy in uncertain times.

And remember: Petting your cat is not a risk factor!

Follow our latest news, tips and tricks [by subscribing to our newsletter now.](#)

If you're staying home with your cat, share your stories on Facebook with #feliwayathome!

Stay safe!

The FELIWAY team

#feliwayathome

#### **Links and resources**

[The New Coronavirus and Companion Animals](#) from the World Small Animal Veterinary Association

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) from the World Organisation for Animal Health

[COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#) from the AVMA

