

FEAR FREE VET VISITS



FINDING THE RIGHT VET:

If your cat has shown a negative association with exam handling and medical treatments, you will want to plan to make vet visits as minimally aversive as possible. Here are some tips:

- A cat-only clinic is an excellent choice. If you can't find a cat-only vet in your area, you can look for a clinic that is recognized by the American Association of Feline Practitioners as a cat-friendly practice. The AAFP designated cat-friendly practices have gone through a process that allows them to understand the unique needs of cats and handle even aggressive cats in a gentle, empathetic and caring manner. You can use the AAFP's site to search for a cat friendly veterinarian in your area.
- You can also look for a veterinarian that makes house calls.
- Place a towel over the carrier before leaving the house, and do not remove it until the vet is about to start the exam.
- Reach out to your vet prior to your visit letting them know that your cat is sensitive to vet handling. The vet may recommend a sedative before a vet visit. These are usually easy to hide in cat food and happily eaten!