

# Diagnosis for litter tray problems in cats



Does your cat show any discomfort such as straining and meowing when going to the toilet? Is there blood in the urine or does your cat have diarrhoea?

**YES** → Seek prompt medical advice

**NO**

Is the problem about

**URINE**

**FAECES**

Does your cat leave large amounts of urine on HORIZONTAL surfaces such as the floor, bedding or clothes?

**NO**

**YES**

Does your cat occasionally use the tray, perch on the side of the tray, rush out of the tray, or toilet just beside the tray?

Does your cat leave small amounts of urine on VERTICAL objects such as doors, curtains, walls or furniture? Does the cat reverse up to these objects with its tail up straight, twitch its tail and tread with his back paws while doing this?

**YES**

**Never uses the tray. Always toilets in a similar place or on similar things?**

**MARKING OR SPRAYING**  
A method of communication through pheromones. Most common in cats that are undesexed or live in multi-cat households, and associated with anxiety.

**LITTER TRAY AVOIDANCE**  
A problem with the type of tray, the litter, the location and cleanliness.

**LACK OF HOUSE TRAINING OR PREFERENCE FOR DIFFERENT TOILET**  
The cat may have learnt to prefer using different surfaces such as carpet or clothing to toilet on, or may have had a previous unpleasant experience when using the litter tray.



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