



# FEARFULNESS IN CATS

## Petting/Play

Do not force interaction. Let your cat make the first move. If they know they have a choice in the matter, they are much more likely to open up.

- a. Entice them to come toward you with treats.
- b. Ask permission before petting by offering a fist. If they don't lean in, check again later. If they lean in to your fist or head butt, continue petting. Check back in every few strokes. Start small with head, chin, or neck scratching before moving on to full body petting.
- c. Encourage play with long wand toys. This way, they can engage in play without having to get too close to you. And, we all know how stress-relieving play and exercise can be.

## In-home Behavior Consultation

If you've tried all of these things and haven't seen any improvement, call the Behavior & Training Department at Lollypop Farm to get more advice over the phone or to schedule an in-home behavior consultation. We can be reached at 585-223-1330x153. We would be happy to help!

### 1. Preparation

Prepare a comfortable, safe space at home for your new feline friend!

### 2. Confinement

Slowly introduce your cat to your house so they feel comfortable in their new space.

### 3. Feeding

Help your cat associate you with something good - tasty food and treats!

### 4. Petting/Play

Build your bond with your new cat by playing with them, on their terms.

### 5. In-home Behavior Consultation

If these tips don't work, let the behavior professionals at Lollypop Farm help!



Pet Peeves  
Behavior  
Helpline:  
585-295-2999

Learn more: (585) 223-1330 x153 • [info@lollypop.org](mailto:info@lollypop.org) • [lollypop.org/behavior](http://lollypop.org/behavior)

