



# LITTER BOX ETIQUETTE



**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
OF LEWISVILLE

**Does your cat urinate outside the litter box?**

**Soil in the house?**

**Unnecessary spraying?**

Your veterinarian can help identify factors contributing to these medical, behavior and nutritional issues to help resolve them safely and quickly. Remember, you should always contact your veterinarian if house-soiling continues or if your cat is in pain or straining.

## SOME HELPFUL GUIDANCE

### LOCATION

- Provide a litter box in multiple locations, especially on multiple floors of a home.
- Avoid moving the litter box to different places.

### DEPTH

- Most cats prefer 1-1.5 inches of litter while others prefer deeper. Try to keep the depth consistent across multiple boxes.

### ENVIRONMENT

- Keep litter boxes away from noisy environments such as laundry rooms. Avoid giving medication or doing anything unpleasant while in the litter box area.
- These associations may frighten your cat.

### PROXIMITY

- Keep food and water in a separate room at least 5 feet away from the litter box.

 [AnimalHospitalOfLewisville.com](https://www.AnimalHospitalOfLewisville.com)

 6260 Shallowford Rd  
Lewisville, NC 27023

**336.946.3441**



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## **HOW MANY LITTER BOXES SHOULD I HAVE?**

1 litter box per cat plus one additional box.  
A home with 2 cats should have 3 litter boxes.

## **CLAY OR NATURAL LITTER?**

Most cats prefer traditional clay litter compared to corn, wheat or newspaper litter, especially when they are experiencing stress, anxiety or are unwell.

## **SHOULD I USE SCENTED OR UNSCENTED LITTER?**

Use unscented clumping litter that most resembles sand. Cats are highly sensitive to smell and scented litters can be unpleasant for them.

## **WHAT SIZE LITTER BOX SHOULD I BUY?**

Cats need to move around in their litter box. Older cats, especially those that are arthritic, may prefer low walls or a low door to avoid climbing.

## **SHOULD WE KEEP IT OPEN?**

Most cats do not feel comfortable in a covered box. Remove covers from the litter box.

## **HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CLEAN THE LITTER BOX?**

Clean your litter box daily; more often the better. Empty the litter tray every 1-2 weeks, clean it with a mild detergent, rinse it and dry well.



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