Introducing Your Cat to Puzzle Feeders

Something to Remember

Cats are natural hunters and are taught how to forage for their food by their parents in the wild.

This hunting behavior provides mental and physical stimulation. A cat's playful nature thrives on stimulation and food puzzles are designed to provide stimulation cats desire and need.





Let Them Play

A low-stress introduction is best. Start by allowing your cat to play with the feeder as a toy without food. This will help them get accustomed to the sight and smell of the puzzle. Consider placing the feeder near their food bowl to associate it with mealtime.



Start Out Easy

As mentioned, start with a puzzle that is more accessible and then gradually increase the difficulty as your cat becomes more skilled at using it. This incremental approach allows your cat to master the game at their own pace. Each difficulty level offers a new set of challenges for them to solve.





Make It Rewarding

To encourage your cat to use the feeder, start by placing a small number of treats inside. As your cat becomes more comfortable with the feeder, gradually replace some of the treats with regular kibble. This will help your cat make a smooth transition to using the feeder for their meals.



Remember to exercise patience with your cat and avoid forcing them. Always keep in mind that you are their guide as they navigate through this new experience. Providing them with small hints, such as tapping on the compartment or giving them a quick peek at the treat, can be helpful.





Positive Reinforcement

Remember to offer praise and encouragement to your pet when they successfully use the feeder. Positive reinforcement, such as verbal praise or a head scratch, are essential to the learning process. These acts of encouragement will help your pet to associate the feeder with positive experiences.

