

ARTHRITIS AWARENESS & OUR CATS



Arthritis is a common and painful condition that can affect cats of all ages. As a pet parent, you play a vital role in spotting the signs of arthritis in your cat and slowing its progression. By understanding the early signs and taking steps to manage your cat's joint health, you can help your furry friend live a happier, more comfortable life.

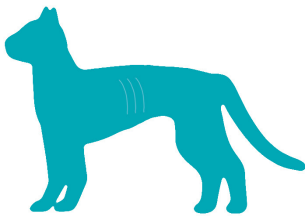
SIGNS OF ARTHRITIS IN CATS

Cats aren't always great at telling us when they are in pain, so keep an eye out for the subtle signs of arthritis!

- Difficulty getting up from laying down
- Hesitant to jump to favorite spots
- Walking stiffly
- Difficulty going up and down stairs
- Napping or resting more frequently
- Reluctance to play

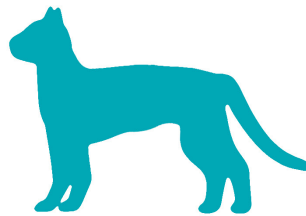
SLOWING ARTHRITIS PROGRESSION

Weight management is one of the most important factors when it comes to managing arthritis in cats. Cats of an ideal weight are healthier and live longer, so make sure the food bowl isn't overflowing!



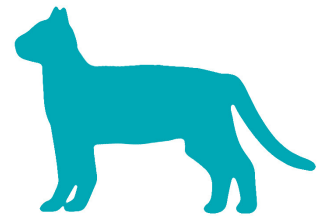
Underweight

*Highly visible ribs, hip bones, and waist.
Very prominent abdominal tuck.*



Ideal Weight

Visible waist. Ribs are not visible but are easily felt.



Overweight

*No visible waist. Abdominal is no longer tucked.
Ribs are not visible and not easily felt.*

Environmental Support. Make changes around the home to help your cat deal with arthritis. Move their litter-box so they no longer need to go up and down stairs, Create ramps so they no longer need to jump to get on the couch or bed, and raise food and water bowls so they are at eye-level.

Check-in with your vet. Regular visits to the vet can help diagnose common issues that lead to arthritis.

MANAGING ARTHRITIS

Joint Supplements. Supplements help with joint strength and pain and can also act as an anti-inflammatory. As always, contact your veterinarian before giving your cat any medication or supplements.

Pain Medications are commonly used to treat more severe cases of arthritis. However, it is very important to only use pain medications as prescribed by your veterinarian, as many have side effects which can be very serious.