

Siamese are Eager to Please

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both minds and bodies require exercise.

"They like to play fetch a lot," Stevenson says. "If you can't play games with them they'll invent one for you. They're really intelligent, and they like to do things with people."

Nearly everything they do is reminiscent of a clown in a cat's body, which is probably why their humans are delighted to spend so much time with them.

"They just want to investigate whatever you happen to be in the middle of," Stevenson says. "If you happen to be cooking something on the stove and you let them, they'll be up there trying to help you stir whatever is in the pot."

Certainly, those ancient monks knew what they were doing when opening their lives, hearts and temples to this unique breed. Maybe that's why they continue to thrive with people today.

"It's a very special breed," Wheeldon says. "And I think it's worth preserving." 🐾



Everything about the Siamese is long — except for its short, fine coat.

LARRY JOHNSON

Food Makes Friends

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yummy food — with being physically close to their housemate, they will feel more comfortable with each other. You might even notice the cats getting along better in general as tension between them decreases.

"We can use [food] to reinforce behaviors that we like," Sueda says. "So, if we reward cats with food for tolerating the

presence of another cat, it can actually help increase their bond and the social ability of the cat."

When your cats exhibit consistently friendly mealtime behavior, try this: Coat both sides of a spoon with some tasty canned food and offer it to them before their regular meal. Many cats that once growled and hissed at each other will happily share this treat and lick their respective sides of the spoon clean.

Whether you are dealing with longtime roommates who tolerate each other or a new cat who has joined your household, you can use food to help your cats get along

House of Plenty

From dining side by side to playing with food puzzle toys, eating can be a positive shared experience that will help your cats bond as they equate being together with filling their bellies. Having plenty of food available in multiple locations will allow your cats to enjoy their meals in an accessible, stress-free atmosphere.

After all, a good meal shared with friends is enough to make anyone happy, including your feline family. 🐾



BIANCA LUNDEN KENNEDY

If one cat always causes trouble at mealtimes, try feeding him away from the others.

Flower Power

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Gentian. If the cat's depression is severe and the animal seems to have given up hope [has stopped eating or socializing, for example], consider Gorse along with the other three."

Some treatments can start to work in seconds, while others might take months or longer, depending on the cat and her situation. Often, you have to try a few remedies before you find the right ones, and long-term, chronic issues might not respond quickly.

"A common error is not giving the essences enough time to work," Rockshaw says.

"Be patient," Rockshaw says. "Your animal friends are beautiful little individuals, and flower essence therapy is a highly individualized form of healing. The time and effort you put into this will be wonderfully rewarded. As you watch your animal's personality blossom, fears dissolve and emotions balance, it will all be worth it!" 🐾

FLOWER ESSENCE DOSING TIPS

To apply, drop the essence on your cat's tongue. Flower essences work best and fastest by mouth, but you can also rub it on her gums, paw pads, ear leather or nose, or add a few drops to her drinking water or food. Because many flower essences are preserved with alcohol and cats hate the taste, it's important to dilute the essences in spring water.

Give at least four doses daily for a week, then do it three times a day until the behavior or attitude visibly improves. Next, consider if you need to switch essences or discontinue the treatment altogether as your cat's normal attitude and personality emerge.

"If you are consistent with how often you dose, you'll be more successful," says Rockshaw, who prefers adding a few drops in the cat's wet food (rather than water), giving it in the mouth or rubbing it on the ear flaps. "Oral dosing always works best, but very sensitive animals will respond if you rub it into their ear flaps, paw pads or on gums."

Once you've established a good dosing schedule, stay on it until you see the maximum results.

"If your animal's emotional progress keeps up and then plateaus for a few days, stop the current essences," Rockshaw says. "You may need to pick out other essences."