



Why is our cat clawing the furniture and how can we stop this behavior?

Your cat's desire to scratch is a hard-wired instinct not a behavioral problem. Cats scratch to maintain their claws by removing the outer sheath, to mark their territory by leaving their scent on surfaces, and to stretch and play; essentially, it's a way for them to communicate and express themselves through physical action. Scratching feels good and is impossible to prevent!

Redirect your cat's natural need to scratch by offering alternatives such as:

- Cardboard scratchers. They're cheap and refillable, and cats love them. Adding a little catnip will help attract the kitty to using the scratcher.
- Cat trees and cat posts with carpeted or sisal rope covered scratching areas.

Place the scratchers in areas where they kitty likes to play and sleep; don't just hide them in corners or out-of-view locations or they won't be used.

When you notice kitty scratching your furniture, say NO and put her where she can scratch. Praise kitty for using her scratching place and not your furniture. Double-sided tape is a great way to protect any areas of your furniture your kitty is scratching (it can be purchased on Amazon). They won't like the feel of it, and it can be removed when the kitty has moved on to using appropriate scratchers.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions or issues: info@kneadingkittysrescueaz.com

Kneading Kitty's Rescue