Is Cat Hair Becoming a Nuisance?

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Shedding is a nuisance! It can leave a mess on your clothes, furniture, and throughout your entire home. It also can contribute to hairball problems - especially in long hair breeds – which can lead to serious health problems for your pet.

Healthy shedding is a normal process that occurs every day and varies in degree due to factors like your cat's age, her diet, and the season. By controlling shedding, and dealing with its fallout, you can keep your cat healthier and your home cleaner. Here are some effective control techniques:

1 Start from the inside out

Your pet's coat is a reflection of what she eats. You'll be surprised what a difference you'll see if you insist on feeding your cat a premium brand food. High quality diets like Drs. Foster & Smith's Signature Series® Healthy Cat Food provide optimal nutrition rich in Omega-3 and Omega-6 fatty acids that help soften skin and reduce excess shedding.

We also suggest adding supplements for skin and coat:

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- Vitacoat® Plus for Cats, a blend of vitamins, minerals, and Omega-3 and Omega-6 fatty acids.

2 Give it the brush off

If you brush your cat regularly - and you should - you will notice that sometimes it produces very little hair, and other times it produces handfuls. You are simply witnessing changes in the rate of shedding. Using the right tools, daily or weekly brushing can detangle mats, remove dead undercoat, lift away excess dander, and add shine:

- Mat Removing Tools remove matted and tangled hair, yet are gentle on your cat's delicate skin.
- Slicker Brushes have fine wire bristles useful for final brush-out, removing mats and tangles.

3 Rinse, wipe, and spray it away

Bathing your cat regularly helps remove loose hair, excess oils, and it reduces odor. If your cat is water-fussy, you may want to use disposable pads - such as Cat Bath Wipes saturated with natural proteins and conditioners, or waterless cleaners which you spritz on, massage in, and towel off.

4 Keep it under wraps

Use attractive throws to protect your furniture. They are easy to put out during periods of peak shedding, easily removed when company visits, and can be tossed into the washer for cleaning.

Keep it in its place There is an alternative to having cat hair all over your couch or favorite chair… and your home. Cat beds, trees, or play furniture afford your cat a comfortable place of her own to hang out.

6 Clean up loose ends

From time-to-time every cat owner needs help cleaning up:

- The Pick-Up Roller is a proven tool and a customer favorite.
- Save time keeping your home pet hair free with a Mega-Cleaning Kit.

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Good shed control makes sharing your home with your cat more enjoyable.

Race Foster DVM Martin R. Smith DVM

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