



MYM
MEET YOUR MATCH[®]
A PROGRAM OF THE **ASPCA[®]**



What is The Meet Your Match Feline-ality™ Adoption Program?

The Meet Your Match program was researched and designed by the ASPCA to help better understand a cat's personality, and to assist shelters with matching their adoptable cats into more appropriate homes.

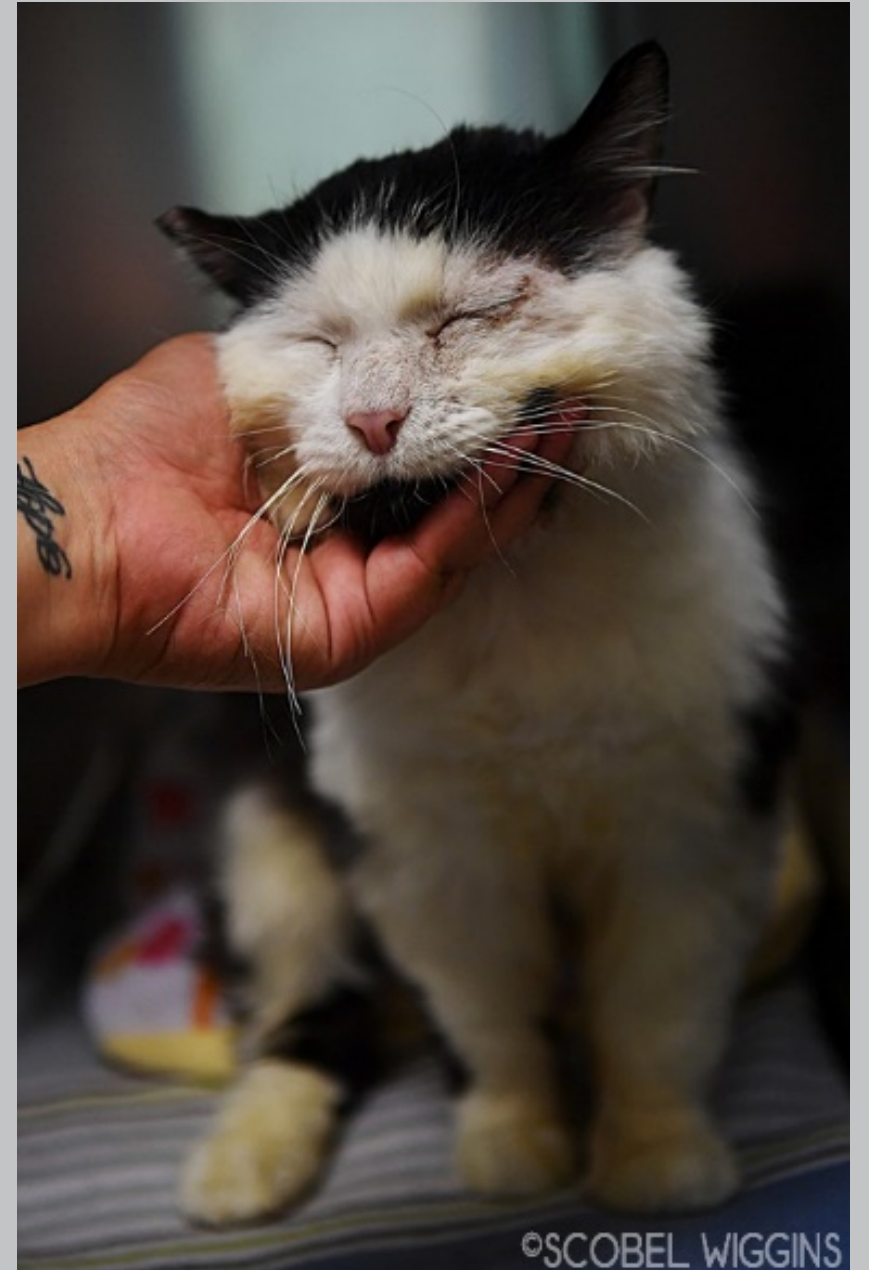
For over five years, Heartland Humane has been participating in this program with their cats. Staff are trained to assess each cat's engagement, temperament, and adaptability. Through the years, Heartland has seen an increase in more meaningful and successful adoptions.

the feline-alities

Much like humans, every cat has personality, in this case, a feline-ality™. With research, nine unique feline-alities have been identified. They are based on two major scales: **Valiance & Independent - Gregarious**.

- **Valiance** - Refers to the cat's response to new stimulus. A high valiant cat is likely to approach new stimuli.
- **Independent** - The low end of the scale, means the cat does not seek out social interaction.
- **Gregarious** - The high end of the scale, means the cat is

The **Valiance Scale** is broken down into three color groups: **Purple**, **Orange**, and **Green**. For each color group, there are three feline-alities. The **Independent - Gregarious Scale** represents how social the cat may be.



purple group



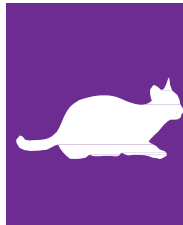
love bug

Do you seek affection? I do! If you also like petting, purrs, and paws kneading your lap, I think we might have A LOT in common. I'm looking for "someone who enjoys quiet times and togetherness." Could that someone be you?



secret admirer

When it comes to relationships, I'm very level-headed. I don't leap in paws first, if you know what I mean. But give me a little times, and then I'll shower you with purrs, head-butts, and plenty of lap time. In the meantime, you may not see a lot of me - but I'll be thinking a lot of you.



private investigator

I'm working undercover to keep an eye on you and your household. You may not even know you're under surveillance. I can vanish into thin air if anyone or anything interferes with my investigation. If you need a cat who knows how to stay out of trouble and will always keep your secrets, I just might take your case.

orange group

personal assistant

You're working on the computer? Let me press the keys. Reading the paper? I'll hold the pages down for you. Watching TV? I'll just plop in your lap so you can pet me. I love an orderly household, don't you? I'll help you with all your chores, and I'll help you relax when we're done. You'll wonder how you ever managed without me.

sidekick

Like all sidekicks, I'm just plain good company. I like attention, and I also like my solitude. I don't go looking for trouble but I'm no scaredy-cat, either. If you are looking for a steady companion to travel with you on the road of life, look no further.

the executive

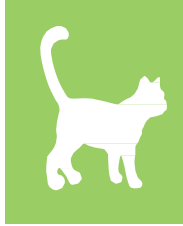
I have to say, I'm a busy cat. First, I've got to check out what's happening out the window. Next, I'll see if any closets or cupboards need looking into. And then there are my naps - can't be late for those. I can fit a little socializing into my schedule, Shall we plan on breakfast and dinner? I hope you like kibbles.





green group

leader of the band



I'm a cat who does everything in a big way. I not only like to be in the middle of things - I like to lead the parade. I'm an adventurous cat, but I'll still make plenty of time to show you my affectionate side. I'm the demonstrative type, you might say. Want a cat who's brimming with confidence? That's me.

party animal



I'm a cat on a mission: **PARTY!** I love to play and explore and test my limits. I'd love to play with you, but I can make a toy out of anything: pencils, post-it notes, potatoes. If you're looking for some laughs and someone to liven up the party, think about inviting me.

MVP



I'm a savvy cat who knows the score. I'm pretty unflappable, too. I don't mind entertaining myself, but a human companion at the other end of the couch and a nice scratch behind the ears always makes my day. If you're looking for a resourceful addition to your team, think about signing this Most Valuable Pussycat.

what color is your cat?

Although this program was designed for cats in shelter care - determining how a cat will react and adjust to new environments, **we have adapted the assessment for you to do with your cat(s) at home - in a known, comfortable setting.**

We removed a handful of the items from the original assessment:

- Greeting a cat in the kennel space
- Opening the kennel door
- Placing the cat in a crate
- And moving the cat to a novel space

The adapted assessment focuses on interaction between the cat and assessor once the cat finds comfort in the space they are in. We hope by doing this project with your cat(s), you may have a better understanding of how your cat responds to you and others - strengthening your bond!





what you need

To get started, you will need to have a quiet room in your house. During your assessment, you don't want any external stimulus that could affect your interactions with your cat. You will also need...

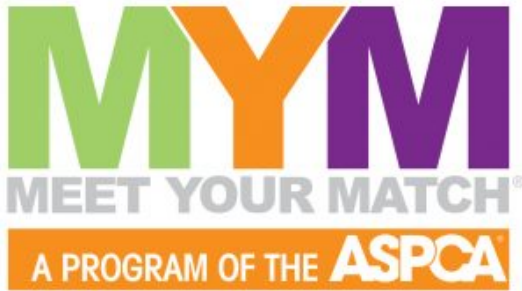
- A printed copy of our adapted feline-assessment
- Clipboard, or something to write on
- Pencil
- And a variety of cat toys, or things the cat may want to play with. The toys will be used during one of the item #'s!

Follow the directions on the assessment for each item # you will complete.

all done?

Once you have completed your assessment, follow the directions on how to score your assessment, and find your cat's feline-ality on the chart at the end of the assessment.

We also provided a printable card for you to insert a fun photo of your cat, and the feline-ality profile that best represents them!



If you are curious about learning more about the program, please visit the ASPCA website at the link below!

<https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/saving-lives-adoption-programs-behavior-enrichment/meet-your-matchr-survey-and-guides>

We want to thank our counterparts at ASPCA for their research and commitment to animal welfare.

