

the feline-ality assessment

Before starting, place your cat in a quiet space/room in your house. Allow your cat to become comfortable for a bit on its own. After some time, enter the room quietly, with no interaction. Make sure to bring those cat toys. You will need them on a later item #.

Please note: This is an adapted assessment from the original **Meet Your Match Feline-ality™ Adoption Program**. This assessment focuses on your cat's behaviors while interacting within a known and comfortable space. For more information on the original assessment, please check out the link below:

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

item #1: call and approach

The call and approach assessment is designed to rate how your cat responds when you attempt to engage with him/her. Using your voice and an extended fist, call to your cat and observe how your cat responds. Give the cat up to 30 seconds to approach before ending this assessment.

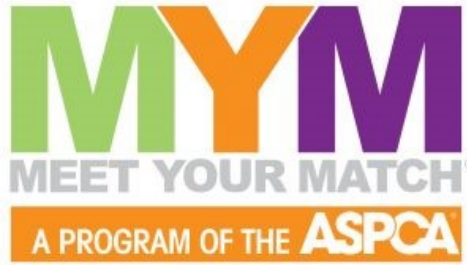
Check all behaviors that occur			
	Makes eye contact	add 1 pt.	
	Does not make eye contact	subtract 1 pt.	
	Approaches	add 3 pts	
	Sniffs or head butts	add 3 pts	
	Rolls on back or rolls over	add 2 pts	
	Meows, purrs and/or chirps	add 1 pt.	
	Watches with no approach	add 0 pts	
	Retreats	subtract 1 pt.	
	Hisses/growls - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
total points for item #1			

item #2: open hand

The open hand assessment expands on item #1. Crouch next to the cat, extend an open hand (palm up) and observe the results. Wait up to 10 seconds for contact. If there was contact during item #1, the only change is the position of the hand. Try not to speak during this assessment as it focuses on forced interaction.



Check all behaviors that occur			
	Sniffs or head butts	add 3 pts	
	Licks or rubs on hand	add 3 pts	
	Rolls on back or rolls over	add 2 pts	
	Meows, purrs and/or chirps	add 2 pts	
	Retreats/defensive position	subtract 1 pt.	
	Hisses/growls - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
	Swats/attempts to swat hand - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
	Bites/attempts to bite hand - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
total points for item #2			



item #3: stroking

The stroking item is designed to determine your cat's tolerance of petting. Cats with high scores are likely to be easier to handle.

Take a comfortable position next to your cat. Begin stroking your cat with long, slow strokes at the head and ending at the base of the tail. Make sure to stop when you observe an aggressive response.



Check all behaviors that occur

Rubs against legs or hand	add 3 pts	
Head butts	add 3 pts	
Circles you attentively	add 2 pts	
Meows, purrs and/or chirps	add 2 pts	
Rolls onto back or rolls over	add 2 pts	
Shows initial fear but then relaxes	add 0 pts	
Retreats/defensive position	subtract 1 pt.	
Hisses/growls - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
Swats/attempts to swat hand - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
Bites/attempts to bite hand - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
total points for item #3		

item #4: Play

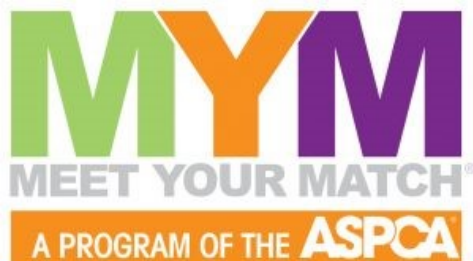
While some adopters prefer playful cats, others may not. The play assessment determines your cat's playfulness, sociability, and toy preferences. Cats that actively engage in play during this item are more likely to display high activity levels.



Begin a couple of feet away from your cat, and slowly move a piece of string or yarn to initiate play. Try to engage with other toys. Observe your cat's engagements.

Check all behaviors that occur

Watches toy intently	add 3 pts	
Chases toy	add 3 pts	
Comes back for stroking	add 2 pts	
Ignores toys	add 0 pts	
Attends to something else	subtract 1 pt.	
Avoids eye contact	subtract 1 pt.	
Bites/attempts to bite hand - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
total points for item #4		



item #5: hug

Some cats tolerate handling well, while others resist being confined or restricted. The hug item is employed to determine your cat's comfort level.

Call the cat over to you or approach him/her slowly. While standing, stroke your cat a few times and then calmly pick up your cat and hold against your chest. Lightly hug and gently return your cat to the ground.



Check all behaviors that occur

	Is relaxed	add 3 pts	
	Extends paw to evaluator's neck or shoulder in an affiliative manner	add 3 pts	
	Meows, purrs and/or chirps	add 2 pts	
	Accepts hold but remains a bit tense	add 2 pts	
	Struggles to escape - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 1 pt.	
	Hisses/growls - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
	Stiffens and extends claws - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
	Swats/attempts to swat - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
	Bites/attempts to bite - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
total points for item #5			

item #6: sensitivity

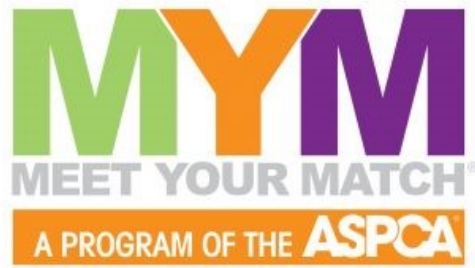
This final assessment determines your cat's sensitivity to mild handling as well as accepting younger children - who tend to be more physical when interacting with animals.

Once your cat is comfortable next to you, gently grasp the base of the tail. Pull up with a steady pressure and with your other hand, move your cat's back feet off the floor. Hold for a second and then release.



Check all behaviors that occur

	Rolls onto back or rolls over	add 3 pts	
	Shows no reaction	add 3 pts	
	Meows, purrs and/or chirps	add 1 pt.	
	Struggles/tries to escape - Respect your cat's space!	add 0 pts	
	Hisses/growls - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 1 pt.	
	Swats/attempts to swat - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 2 pts	
	Bites/attempts to bite - Respect your cat's space!	subtract 3 pts	
total points for item #6			



selecting a feline-ality

Once you finish your assessment, give yourself a pat on the back! That was a lot of work, but guess what, once you finalize the results, you will have a deeper understanding of your cat!










Overall Score		
	Independent - Gregarious Scale	Valiance Scale
item #1		
item #2		
item #3		
item #4		
item #5		
item #6		
Total Score		

- Add up the total scores for each item.
- Enter the total scores of each item into the overall score chart - except the boxes shaded black.
- For item #1, the total score will be entered in both the **Scale** columns.
- For item #2, the total score will only be entered in the **Valiance Scale** column.
- Repeat for the other item #'s.
- Add up the total scores of each column at the bottom. This will give you two numbers to use on the final feline-ality™ chart.

feline-ality chart

Use the two numbers from the overall score chart to fine your cat's feline-ality. For example, If your cat scored a **9** on the **Valiance Scale**, and a **24** on the **Independence - Gregarious Scale**, your cat is a **Love Bug** - which means your cat tends to be cautious with new stimulus, and seeks your attention!

Independence - Gregarious Scale

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
1	 Private Investigator										 Secret Admirer										 Love Bug												
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13	 The Executive										 Sidekick										 Personal Assistant												
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