

How to Help Your Grieving Cat

We all struggle when we lose the great loves of our lives and this does not preclude our furry family members. While we are doing what we can to cope with such a loss, we must do our due diligence to watch over our furry family and ensure they are supported through the stages as well.

Signs your Cat is Grieving

The most noticeable changes are in your cats' behaviors. Here are some signs your cat is grieving:

- An increase in the need for the owner's attention.
- Always wanting to be their owner's side.
- Seeking less attention, withdrawal, aloofness
- Hiding
- Seeking out their fur buddy by laying in their favorite snuggle spot.
- Sleeping much longer
- Eating less/more
- Increased/Decreased vocalization
- Increased volume of vocalization

How to Help Your Grieving Cat

- Have bedding, clothing, a comfort companion (stuffed animal) that has the scent of the cat(s) who passed away
- Pheromone Diffusers (Feliway, Thunderease) to help with calming
- Provide more personal interactions with the mourning cat, playtime, and affection from both humans and other resident felines.
- We suggest that fur from your cats is collected over time and that it can be used as a scent supporter as well. This could be made into a pillow, or a small blanket.
- Keep your schedule consistent.
- Keep your focus on the positive behaviors exhibited, do not reprimand the mourning cat for newly undesired behaviors.
- Seek out medical support if your cat continues to show a decline both emotionally and medically.