

INTERESTING CAT FACTS

Cats have a natural dislike of sweet tasting foods because they are so well evolved as carnivores that they cannot digest sugars very well, they convert fats instead.

Thanks to their very powerful hind legs and flexible spine, cats are noted for their ability to leap long distances, often as much as six times their entire length.

Cats are able to “always” land on their feet because they have a very flexible spine, enabling them to orient their bodies aided by a balancing organ in their inner ears.

The whiskers of a cat are devices for indirectly feeling the immediate environment. When something touches a whisker it is sensed by special cells surrounding its root.

Cats have tongues covered in sharp hair-like points called papillae. They are used to scrape blood and flesh from bones, and for raking their fur while cleaning themselves.

Purring is most obviously used to express pleasure, but cats are known to purr when they are ill or injured, suggesting that it comforts them during times of stress.

Cats’ fur has two layers. There is a layer of guard hairs which keep the cat clean, as well as a dense underfur to insulate against hot or cold conditions.

The reason why cats rub their faces and tails against objects, including pet owners, is the fact that they are leaving traces of their own scent as territorial markers.

Cats have large pupils to let as much light in as possible at night. A pet cat’s eyes are only slightly smaller than ours, yet it can see six times better than a human in the dark.

Keeping cool can be a real problem for cats. They can only sweat from their paws because of their dense fur, so they will lie in shade and pant to avoid overheating.

Cats have short muzzles because they rely more heavily on their senses of vision and hearing while hunting, rather than their sense of smell.

The pads of a cat’s paws are so sensitive to temperature that they quickly locate warm spots to sit.

The traditional way for diagnosing illness in a cat, is to check its nose. It is cold and noticeably wet, then it may have a chill, cold, or even cat flu.

The belly of a cat is its most vulnerable area. By rolling over and exposing its belly, a cat is therefore displaying a great deal of trust towards a person.