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Foster animal's name _____ Sex _____

Age: Baby Young Adult Senior Type: Dog Cat ID / Microchip #: _____

Foster parent's name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Other _____

E-mail _____ Driver's license number _____

Tails of the Free Rescue, Inc., a Pennsylvania nonprofit organization, operates an animal rescue and is located in and around Chester Co, Pa. In this agreement, it is called "Tails of the Free."

The foster parent has met the requirements for serving as a foster parent for animals from Tails of the Free and is called "Foster Parent" in this agreement.

This agreement is between Tails of the Free and the Foster Parent for the purpose of socializing certain animals and preparing these animals for successful adoptions into forever homes.

1. **Care of the Animal.** The Foster Parent agrees to:

- Provide a foster home for the above-named foster animal for a period of ____ weeks from the date noted below
- Provide shelter, fresh water, wholesome food, adequate exercise and loving attention to the foster animal
- Keep all Tails of the Free identification tags and microchip on the foster animal for the entire foster period
- Obtain immediate veterinary care if the foster animal becomes ill or is injured
- Take the sick or injured foster animal to the Tails of the Free approved vet locations, or to another pre-approved veterinary clinic in the locality in which the Foster Parent lives
- Return the foster animal to Tails of the Free when the foster period ends; if the Foster Parent must or is required to return the foster animal before the foster period has elapsed, the Foster Parent will contact Tails of the Free and keep the foster animal until Tails of the Free arranges to retrieve it
- Never tie up or chain the foster animal at any time

- Never leave the foster animal in a car for an extended period of time, and never in the hot summer months for any amount of time without air conditioning
 - Keep the foster animal under control, either on a leash or within the confines of a fenced area, when the foster animal is outdoors
 - Keep a foster cat indoors at all times
 - Never allow a foster dog to ride in the back of a pickup truck unless in a secure crate or appropriate harness attached to the bed of the truck
 - Never give or sign over the foster animal to any other person or shelter
 - In the event that the animal is impounded by an animal care and control agency, the Foster Parent agrees to ask the officers immediately to scan the animal for a microchip and to call Tails of the Free
2. **Tails of the Free' Obligations.** Tails of the Free agrees to:
 - Pay the fees for care at a pre-approved veterinary clinic and to treat the foster animal at the Tails of the Free veterinary clinic at no cost to the Foster Parent
 - Evaluate the foster-parent/foster-animal relationship after the first three weeks, and at six weeks, nine weeks and twelve weeks
 3. **Lifetime Commitment and Euthanasia.** Tails of the Free makes a lifetime commitment to its animals. If the Foster Parent should be unable or unwilling to care for the animal, he or she shall contact Tails of the Free immediately so that Tails of the Free may take possession of the animal. The Foster Parent shall not under any circumstances abandon, give away, allow to run away, surrender to a shelter or animal care and control or law enforcement officials or euthanize or have euthanized any animal that he or she has received from Tails of the Free. If a licensed veterinarian recommends euthanasia, the Foster Parent agrees to notify Tails of the Free before the euthanasia and speak directly with A coordinator and provide the name and contact number of the veterinarian, and the veterinarian and Tails of the Free will make the decision as to the euthanasia.
 4. **Seizure and Impoundment of the Animal.** If the animal shall, for any reason, be picked up by local law enforcement or animal control, the Foster Parent will immediately contact Tails of the Free by phone or email and inform a coordinator directly that the animal has been picked up and impounded and the animal's location. Foster Parent shall also in that event inform the authorities holding the animal that the animal is the property of Tails of the Free and if microchipped, provide contact information for Tails of the Free to the authorities and request that the authorities contact Tails of the Free immediately. Under no circumstances will Foster Parent agree to or allow the euthanasia of the animal.
 5. **No Representations.** The Foster Parent understands that Tails of the Free does not guarantee the health, temperament, or training of the above described animal.
 6. **Termination.** The agreement may be terminated by Tails of the Free at any time; and by Foster Parent, in which case, the foster animal is to be returned to Tails of the Free. Upon notice of termination by either party, Foster Parent will keep the animal safe and continue to house and

care for the animal as required by this agreement until arrangements can be made for return of the animal to Tails of the Free. Foster Parent agrees to cooperate in efforts including helping with necessary arrangements for the safe return of the animal to Tails of the Free.

7. **Not Assignable.** This agreement is not assignable by Foster Parent.
8. **Photographic and Audio Release.** The Foster Parent expressly grants Tails of the Free permission to make photographic or video or audio recordings of the Foster Parent with the animal or during participation in a Tails of the Free or other event. The Foster Parent grants Tails of the Free rights to all photographic images and video or audio recordings made. This includes, but is not limited to, any royalties, proceeds, or other benefits derived from such photographs or recordings. The Foster Parent understands and agrees that Tails of the Free may use these photographs or recordings to promote Tails of the Free and its mission, including Tails of the Free events and work, and for fundraising and other purposes Tails of the Free decides is appropriate.
9. **Release.** The Foster Parent, and for his/her spouse, heirs, executors, personal representatives and assigns, agrees never to bring a claim or suit against Tails of the Free Rescue, Inc. The Foster Parent releases Tails of the Free and its directors, founders, employees, officers, agents, representatives, contractors, volunteers, successors and assigns from all liability arising from the adoption or behavior or actions of the cat. The Foster Parent understands this agreement discharges Tails of the Free and its directors, founders, employees, officers, agents, representatives, contractors, volunteers, successors and assigns from any liability to the Foster Parent and his/her spouse, heirs, executors, and assigns, with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, illness, amputation, scarring, death, property damage or other loss that may result from the adoption or behavior or activities of the cat. The Foster Parent releases Tails of the Free and discharges Tails of the Free and its directors, founders, employees, officers, agents, representatives, contractors, volunteers, successors and assigns from any liability for Tails of the Free' own negligence or liability that may result in bodily injury, personal injury, illness, amputation, scarring, death, property damage or other loss to the Foster Parent.
10. **Indemnity Agreement.** The Foster Parent and for his/her spouse, heirs, executors, personal representatives, and assigns, agrees to indemnify and hold Tails of the Free harmless for all bodily injury, personal injury, illness, amputation, scarring, death, property damage or other losses including attorney's fees and costs of litigation that result to anyone else or any other entity because of the Foster Parent's negligence or liability. This includes lone acts or omissions by the Foster Parent as well as the combined acts of the Foster Parent with others.
11. **Change of Address.** In the event that the Foster Parent moves, he or she agrees to contact Tails of the Free with change of address information, so that all records can be updated and microchip information can be changed.
12. **Other.** The Foster Parent expressly agrees the releases and indemnity agreement are intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by law. The Foster Parent agrees that in the event that any clause or provision of this agreement shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining

Appendix A

INTEGRATING CAT INTO NEW HOME

“Give ‘em a break!”

Tips For Introducing Your Foster or Adopted Cat Into the Home



A carefully planned introduction is everything. Most cats do not readily accept a new member of the family; they need time to get used to the idea. A certain amount of hissing, posturing and chasing is to be expected. It is important to have patience and not rush things along. Don't chance an all-out fight; when in doubt, wait a few more days before proceeding to the next step. Preventing a problem is easier than solving one.

Several factors need to be considered and balanced in a planned introduction; among them age, size, sexual maturity, personality. Experience matters. A stray will be competitive, territorial and stand up for himself. An orphaned hand raised kitten may grow up to be an awkward and fearful adult; when it comes to living with another cat, this type of cat commonly is unable to make the adjustment. As the situation deviates from the ideal, the introduction process becomes protracted.

The period of adjustment and creation of a new routine can stretch beyond the normal 6 to 12 weeks. If enough factors are in conflict, the cats will become adversaries rather than friends.

If this were an ideal world the New cat (N-cat) would be younger and smaller than the Existing cat (E-cat). N-cat would be of the opposite sex, sexually immature or neutered. His personality would complement that of the E-cat. You would take your time interviewing all candidates and would be rational, not emotional during the decision-making process.

The reality is that many times choice is not an option. Roommates, lovers and spouses with cats come as a basic non-negotiable package deal; the humans agreed to cohabitate, the cats will have to manage. This type of introduction can be rough. Be prepared for a prolonged introduction; especially if the cats have lived alone since kittenhood and have no experience living with another cat.

Finding a stray on the street or falling in love at the shelter is another one of those unplanned events that can deliver a jolt to both you and your E-cat. Should you take him home just because fate put him in your path? A cat from the shelter or a rescued stray must be physically isolated from your E-cat for 10 days to 2 weeks to make certain that he is not incubating a contagious disease. A cat with an unknown background must be thoroughly examined for

parasites and disease, leukemia tested, and vaccinated by a veterinarian before he can come into contact with E-cat.

The Isolation Area

All introductions start with the same basic rules. The newcomer, N-cat, will be isolated. The existing cat, E-cat, will have the run of the house except for the area designated as N-cat's isolation area. The isolation area should be a room with a door that can be closed so there is absolutely no contact between the newcomer and the existing cat. You must be able to provide this type of space if N-cat is a shelter cat or a stray.

If the cat's health record is known and space is severely limited, a large cattery or kennel cage with a blanket over it will suffice.

If you don't have a spare room, your bedroom or bathroom can be set up as the isolation room. If your cat is used to sleeping with you, you may have to use the bathroom. Remember, E-cat should be inconvenienced as little as possible; suddenly denying E-cat this basic level of companionship will complicate the situation.

If you're left with no choice, except the bathroom, and E-cat's litter box is currently located there, move the box to a new spot or create one with a privacy screen. If circumstances permit, do this at least two weeks before bringing the newcomer home. Planning ahead will minimize the chaos for E-cat.

The isolation area should be cat proofed and well ventilated. The simple set-up should include a litter box, a water bowl and a cave-like hiding box lined with something comfortable. Be sure to spend quality time with E-cat. Talk to him; tell him that although things are not the way they used to be, he is still special. Play his favorite games. Groom him daily. Give him little bits of something yummy by hand. Make it intimate.

Step Two

Now that E-cat is accustomed to the newcomers' limited existence, it's time to move forward. The next step will allow them to see each other without full body contact. Stack two 36" high tension gates in the newcomer's doorway. Rigid plastic mesh baby gates are available at most children's specialty or department stores. If you have reason to believe that either cat will get over the 6' gate set-up, use PLAN B. It is very important that the cats not fight. PLAN B: jam the door of the isolation room with two hard rubber door stops, one on each side with the door cracked open 2 to 3 inches. Make sure that neither cat fit his head through the opening. Check that the door is secure and will not suddenly pop open or slam shut if a cat body slams the door aggressively. They will be able to touch noses, whack each other with their paws and investigate without full body contact. When you are not at home or unable to at least peripherally supervise, close the door. Do not proceed to the final step until the cats seem relatively calm in each other's presence; hissing, posturing and growling should be at a bare minimum.

Step Three

Finally, you get to open the door! With E-cat occupied elsewhere, take down the gates or open the door. Don't make a big thing out of it. Let the cats happen upon each other. Stay on the sidelines; don't interfere. E-cat may stalk and chase the newcomer; this is typical territorial

behavior. The newcomer may do the same if E-cat enters the isolation room. Do not leave them unsupervised.

If a cat fight erupts keep your hands out of it. Do not attempt to handle or pick up either cat. Clap hands and shout, bang a pot with a spoon, throw water, anything to startle them, but don't ever reach into a tangled mass of fighting cats. It always sounds much worse than it is. Cats yowl and scream, but if their nails have been trimmed prior to the EVENT, damage should be minimal. Declawed cats have no alternative except to bite. When things have cooled down considerably, go over each of their bodies carefully checking for damage. Bites and punctures wounds can become infected and abscess. Call your vet if you suspect that an abscess is forming.

The complete process can take anywhere from several days (kitten to kitten/juvenile) to several months (adult stray to adult prima dona); a lot depends on how far you deviated from the IDEAL. You must watch for signs of stress. Eating food quickly and then vomiting, excessive grooming, sleeping and/or drinking are signs that someone is not happy. Spraying, indiscriminate urination and defecation, mewling and hiding behaviors are also associated with anxiety and stress.

Do not promote competition. Continue to feed in separate areas. Maintain the two litterboxes. Many E-cats have been known to block doorways and deny access to box or bowl. Don't be in a hurry to consolidate. If a cat can't get to his box, he will be left with no choice except to create a new toilet area!

Eventually, hostilities will decline. E-cat will stop the chasing and stalking and the newcomer will stop perching and scurrying along the edges of the room. They'll declare a cease fire. They will start to groom each other and share sleeping spots. At worst, you will have peaceful coexistence and mutual respect. Hopefully, they will become best buddies.

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