

## Kitty Korner - Toys

By Socrates



It has taken a bit of time to get the point across to my humans that I am a cat, who does not have owners but whom has a staff. \*LOL\*. The sooner my human staff understands this, the better off we all will be. My brother Whiskey also maintains this attitude and over time our staff is slowly learning this important aspect.

My point being is that they are wonderful staff and always have tried to ensure that we had a pile of so called cat toys to play with. For the first year or so of our existence on this planet, we had an abundantly steady stream of fake cat toys continue to pile into our toy box.

There was the mouse on the wire stand, a carpet kind of tree perch, the fake rope mouse with a bell inside of it, some kind of furry animal toy that I never could figure out and on and on. You guys get the point – all the crazy things humans dream up that are supposed to amuse us. I often wonder if these things actually amuse the humans and they are transposing that amusement on us.



Don't get me wrong here, the small plastic ball with the bell in it is a lot of fun, until our staff steps on it and breaks it. The rubber ball was great but damn it was hard on my teeth and it always ended up under some piece of furniture that I couldn't

access. Oh yeah, the cat nip plush ball was okay for a bit until the cat nip faded away. Our staff was so kind to buy some cat nip and spread some all over the carpet tree. A cool rush but again it did not last. Yes, our humans have tried their best and we have been grateful for the effort.



On a side note, Whiskey and I got real smart one day and watched where our staff set the bag of cat nip. We waited for our staff to go out for a while and made our way up on the bookcase, reaching down as far as we could and knocked that bag to the floor. Well, needless to say, it was cat nip heaven, or what I can remember of it. What a high, a whole bag of this stuff and I lost almost a whole day out of my life. Whew.....I really wanted to put on a bandana and a tie dye shirt there for a while. \*LOL\*

Anyhow, back to the toy thing. I really appreciate all the effort our staff goes through to help amuse us. What they do not get is that there are hundreds of ready made toys in the house that they never need to go out to purchase. Sometimes those humans just aren't as smart as they like to think they are.



Plants and grass, please read last October's edition article called Cats on Grass. We just love peanuts in the shell; especially the ones with salt on the outside, balls of and pieces of wool are some of my favorite kinds of toys. Little pieces of paper all balled up, boxes, magnets on a metal cabinet, cue tips, toilet paper, one of my favs as it can be

pulled on forever unless someone is too lazy to change the roll. Pens and pencils left on desks, not to mention one of Whiskeys favs, the pencil eraser.

Turn on the TV and load up a screen saver, this keeps my attention for like eons. Actually leave the TV turned on; there are always a few shows that entice me for a little bit. Any food left on the counter is free game, even if it is not really something I like to eat, they do make good play toys.

I have to add that my brother and I actually consider each other a wonderful play toy! Talk about interactive fun, though there are those times when it gets a little rough – you know? Someone pulls someone else's fur out in the heat of the attack? Then we have to fight for a few minutes and prove who is the boss... Whiskey usually wins that part cuz he is quite heavier then me and a little bit meaner.

Okay, so you all get the idea. As much as I really appreciate my staff, they are learning that the store stuff is not the real turn on here. Any small thing left around makes for the most amazing pieces of entertainment for us.



So to all of our Kitty Korner readers, do yourself a favor, save a few dollars and leave a few pieces of paper all crumbled up, maybe even a golf ball or two, and please, please, please, for my health and your animals health, lock up that cat nip bag to avoid having to get your cat into therapy.

Purring till next time.....  
Socrates