



Lightfoot Ragdolls

and Cherubims

NO BAD KITTIES!

Similar to what was talked about with children and ragdolls, there are things you are responsible to teach your kitten and things you need to learn to be a good cat mommy or daddy.

A breeder, Jamie Soule, commented, "Training your kitten in rules of your home consistently is essential to a happy, peaceful introduction. If you are at ease, your kitten will be too. Kittens/cats are very smart, intuitive creatures, and they play off a person's emotions. Making it a happy, calming experience will bring a smoother experience for all."

Have you ever seen a dog walking it's owner? Or a dog that jumps on people visiting? Things like that are challenges dog owners have that start with them becoming trained on how to teach and follow through as a good dog owner. Cats are kind of like that, too. I know cats that will stay off the counters and tables (at least around the owners), or that have learned not to scratch certain things, etc. It is true that dogs have owners and cats have staff. They are much more independent than a dog. They may or may not think it's important to listen to you. If your cat is doing something you would like to correct, then don't pet him/her after you saying no or moving the cat. If you are playing and need to stop a specific behavior, quite playing for a few minutes, then try again.

Some people think they are cruel and hate them (or hate getting startled, themselves), but the motion detect air cans can work really well to be consistent (as long as you pay attention to when it's empty). It helps keep cats off things you don't want them on. You do need to be consistent, though. You can't say to get down one minute and invite them up another.

One thing we talked about in our article about children and ragdolls is if you play rough with your cat and let them play-bite you, that could end up badly for your or

your guests. The cat will not be able to figure out when it's okay and when it's not. I have a daughter that got a kitten and her and her boyfriend let the kitten bite when they were playing. He was a very rough playing boy and they were constantly getting hurt. When cats get rehomed for things like that, it's not the cat's fault. If your kitten is biting, stop playing. Try again a few minutes later. Be consistent and it will figure out what is okay in order to keep playing and what doesn't work.

The calmer you are, the calmer your cat will be. Treats can be a fun motivator or reward for your cat. Please find something nutritious, like freeze-dried chicken chunks or some other small bit of something good. Most of the treats you find at the store are not healthy for your cat. Don't be over-indulgent with treats. Give one or two. Sometimes that's a good way to teach your cat to come when called, playing nicely, etc.

This site always has something fun: www.jacksongalaxy.com

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