

Daphne

Currently Eating

Dry Food: Purina Kitten Chow always available

Canned Food: Pate style Friskies, Fancy Feast Pate or Purina Beyond

For active video links visit www.pet-helpers.com/daphne.pdf

When you take the time to get to know Daphne, you'll find she's one of the best, most loving friends you've ever had. Dictionaries should have an entry defining Daphne as "gentle" and "of a sweet nature and disposition".



In a Nutshell

Daphne is quite timid and shy when you first meet her. Of four litter-mates, she took the longest to trust me and consider me her friend. Now she's the most demonstrative in her affection.

She loves to play, especially with the Cat Dancer toy. She always wants to follow me and see what I'm doing. When I go in to visit and play, she reaches up for me if I don't sit down immediately. Daphne has made it onto my list for "The All Time Sweetest Cats I've Ever Known". Despite her shyness, she's really easy to fall in love with!

Daphne

About Daphne

First of all, Daphne is a beautiful Tabby kitten with her little white paws and intense dark markings. Her gaze is intense. She has a remarkable ability to get my attention by simply staring at me and waiting until I notice. Kittens aren't typically known for their patience, but she seems to have just that quality.

She purrs quietly when I go in; I pet her head, give her a kiss and say "hi". Then she's up for play time. She's very active and loves interactive play, especially chasing or running after things. She also plays well with toys on her own, either chewing on them or running around with some interesting toy in her mouth.

She's close with all her siblings, often wrestling with them or playing chase. She also is most often curled up with one of them during cat nap time. On occasion she does curl up by herself, though that's rare.



She is content to spend time occupied with toys and siblings, but she is very devoted to a human play mate. She has a deeply affectionate and playful nature.

Daphne is very timid at first. New people, things and sounds cause her to run and hide

Daphne

somewhere where she can observe, but feels safe. When this happens now, she'll come to me when I speak her name. Patience with her shyness will pay off, and I think it will be sooner than later. She's become more self-confident with people while she's been here.



Eating

Daphne likes her dry food and fresh water. She has dry food available always, and I give her fresh water a couple of times a day. She likes to watch the water filling her bowl from the dispenser and she likes to supervise me when I add dry food to the dishes.

She gets a little portion of canned food in the morning and in the evening. She's very enthusiastic about this, but it may be more about the act or attention than the food itself. She doesn't always finish her portion before running out to play again.

Litter Box

Daphne was pretty shy when she first came to stay and had one accident on her first day outside the cage (her second day here). She went behind the cage, (next to where the litter box is inside) and started to urinate. I picked her up and put her into the litter box where she finished. Rather than keep her confined in the cage, I decided to add a

Daphne

litter box to that spot outside the cage. She seemed to feel it was a safe spot. She still prefers that litter box over the other two. She hasn't had another "accident" since then.

We started with one box non clumping clay litter and one blended with Yesterday's News. I experimented a couple of weeks ago adding a litter box with unscented clumping litter and she (they all) seem to prefer that.

Housing

Daphne and her siblings started out in my Guest Bedroom Bathroom. For the first afternoon/night, they stayed there in a good sized cage that holds a small litter box, food and water dishes with a kitty bed to curl up. The cage was covered with a blanket to offer a little privacy and security until they felt comfortable. That first day, I spent time going in to hold and cuddle them so they'd begin to get used to my sound and scent. (The cage gives me time to evaluate how frightened they are in the new environment. It's stressful for everyone to try and catch a frightened kitten that is trying to hide.)



The next morning, I opened the cage so they could come out and explore the room if they wanted. Daphne came to the door, but remained inside while a couple of her litter-

Daphne

mates started to inspect the room. Then I introduced them to the Cat Dancer toy. It's still one of her favorite toys. She watched it intently, occasionally swiping to try to catch it. Soon everyone was tearing around the room, chasing, tackling and wrestling with each other.

Once they started to move in and out of the cage without hesitation, I moved the cat bed out to the main room and placed a furry mat inside in it's place. I also added additional litter boxes and food/water dishes. After a couple of weeks, they seemed comfortable with me and the household sounds, so I opened up the door into the Guest Bedroom and let them explore the big space. They were a little nervous for a while, but soon began racing all over, beneath the bed, running back into the bathroom, then back into the big room. After a couple of daytime adventures exploring, and when I was certain they knew to go back to the bathroom for litter boxes, food and water, I gave them free run of both rooms.



Bedding and Sleeping

Daphne likes sleeping on soft or plush surfaces. She'll curl up on the furry mat, a chair with a folded blanket on top, or a blanket on top of the bed. She usually prefers to sleep with one of her siblings.

Daphne

Playing and Toys

Daphne has a few very favorite toys. She really loves interactive play with the Cat Dancer toy and the laser toy, but she also really enjoys the scratching post (pictured above) that has marbles embedded in the base. She loves to poke her paws in the tracks and shove the marbles around the base. She also uses the post for stretching, so it's a winning combination.

She loves chasing balls I throw or roll across the floor for her. She likes catnip filled toys very much too. She'll roll around chewing on them, especially in the sunny spot on the floor by the window. She likes soft and plush toys she can carry around too. If I'm not available to play with her, she'll sometimes grab an end of the Cat Dancer toy and carry it around, rolling over to chew on it for a bit.

She has a cute little habit of doing a sort of somersault over toys she's playing with, then laying there kicking it or looking for the next toy to "catch".



She's always liked to poke her paws beneath rugs or blankets while she's playing. I recently started enticing her onto a small, soft blanket with a toy. Then I gently pull it partway over her (her back feet so she can see) and wrestle a little bit. I made this a very gradual process so as not to scare her. She loves it now! More evidence of her

Daphne

sweetness is that she plays with me without biting hard or serious clawing.

We've been listening to soft music during playtime. At first this made her nervous, but now she seems comfortable and continues her play without interruption when the music starts.

Grooming and Behavior

Daphne is very good about personal grooming. She's a young kitten so sometimes she does get cat litter scattered around and makes a mess around the feeding spots.

She likes to use a vertical scratching post for stretching and climbing. We have two stand-alone and a cat tree with sisal and fur covered legs. She's a kitten and will need guidance about what she can and can't use in her new home. It's important to have scratching posts in the rooms where she sleeps, because she'll need a stretch when she first wakes up. I find it's very helpful when she's learning, to repeatedly "show" her what to use. I do this by putting her near it and running my finger nails up and down the sisal.



Daphne

Her Ideal New Home

Daphne is a very special little girl and needs a home with equally special people. A little patience while she becomes familiar with her new people and environment. She's extremely well behaved and wants to please. With gentle instruction, she'll become an outstanding member of any household.

She's very interested in what's going on outside her window. She'll sit and watch activity outside even while everyone else is playing. She's very timid, so even though she would probably love to go outside to "stalk" and "catch", she's easily frightened. She'd want to be really, really comfortable and familiar with her surroundings before venturing into that unknown. She needs to be certain where "safe" is.

Daphne really wants a home where she has a person or people who will give her plenty of interactive time, playing with Cat Dancer or other interactive toys. She also really needs cuddling and people showing her plenty of love and affection. She's smart, loving and attentive and needs a place where those gifts will be appreciated.



Daphne



When you take the time to get to know Daphne, you'll find she's one of the best, most loving friends you've ever had. Dictionaries should have an entry defining Daphne as "gentle" and "of a sweet nature and disposition".

Videos with Daphne

First appointment with Doctor <https://youtu.be/Z1ZudjeblaE>

Baby Daphne playing <https://youtu.be/iiSoLmqu4Go>

Daphne playing marbles <https://youtu.be/XQMoEUhdxCw>

Ivy and Daphne playing <https://youtu.be/rCo68df9Dos>

Cat Dancer play <https://youtu.be/TK5kFRUvBUw>