Currently Eating Dry Food: Purina Kitten Chow Canned Food: Friskies Liver and Chicken pate

# In a Nutshell

Geordie, while quite shy at first, is very easy going, energetic, playful and

affectionate. He likes to sniff everything, especially your fingers before you pet

him. Once he's comfortable, he'll rub on your legs or side or back and purr up a storm,



merely being in your presence.

# From the beginning...

Geordie was quite shy when he arrived to stay with us. I would pick him up and while he didn't fight, he would struggle a bit and couldn't relax while I held him. He would rush right back to the rear of the cage when I put him down. After he heard his sister purring while I held her, he started to get a little better. He'd initially let me hold him securely in the crook of one arm, facing away from me, and he'd let me pet his back with the opposite hand. His physical demeanor was very stiff, but he'd eventually sigh and then start

to purr. It was still not his favorite activity. However, he's always loved to play, either with his sister or even more with toys. Geordie loves toys! It got so I could entice him out of the cage with the cat dancer toy, and ultimately entice him back inside when it was time to rest. The first few days, they stayed in a cage within a 10 foot by 10 foot bathroom. After they became more comfortable with the setup and the environment, I gave them the run of the room, but kept litter box and food/water inside the cage. This suited them just fine, since every new thing, every new sound and every new scent made them nervous enough to move into a "safe space". Geordie has just recently shown a desire to explore outside their room.



Since the early days Geordie has become more and more comfortable with his environment and with me. He no longer runs to hide when I go in to visit/feed/clean. At the beginning, when I'd go in, I'd sit right down on the floor and reach out my finger so he could sniff me. Then I'd reach over and stroke down his back. As he became more comfortable, he'd purr when I would stroke his back. Now, I no longer have to get down on the floor. I can even stand and walk around without him running for cover. (He does move out of my path unless I'm standing still.) Now when I go into their room, he always

let's me reach out and pet him and he purrs right away.

Initially, Geordie was absolutely *not* a lap kitty. However, now that he's comfortable with me he does like to sit in my lap and be stroked. He'll play or groom himself or just hang out for a bit. While in my lap, he likes to reach his nose up to my mouth and sniff my face. He's always sniffing my clothes, arms and hands. He's still a little wary of kisses, but finally will accept them. Timing is important with Geordie. In the mornings, he's ready to have his litter box changed, water refreshed and dry food added. But mornings are for playing and after a short "good morning" cuddle, he wants to get right to the toys. During our long, later morning visits, if he's playing he usually doesn't want to be picked up or held. You can tell how he's feeling by reaching out and stroking his spine toward his tail. If he runs out from under your hand and off to another part of the room to play, he doesn't want to stop for love and cuddles. On the other hand, if his abrupt little tail (with a tiny crook at the end) stands up in the air and he doesn't run off, he may be amenable to being picked up and held. In the mid to later afternoons when he's been snoozing, he's very cuddly and sweet about being held, or sitting on me or next to me and purring while getting petted and cuddled.

Geordie is fascinated with water. He runs after me when I'm cleaning their water dish and watches intently while the tap rinses and the dispenser fills the dish. I always offer the freshly filled water dish for him to sniff and give approval. He loves to sleep in the basin. He likes to lick the tap for a quick sip.



Geordie loves cat dancer toy as well as anything with feathers or catnip. Or both feathers and catnip. He is energetic and loves to run, leap and wear himself out. He likes tussling with his sister. He can be a little possessive of toys, stealing them from her if she's having a really good time. He can also be a little possessive of me or maybe her. If sister is in my lap, after a while he'll come over and chomp on her throat or tail.

Though he's very energetic and playful, he's quite a peaceful companion. His easy going nature (once comfort is established) is so appealing. Just a super sweet boy! He likes his dry food and I've recently started letting him inspect the dry food storage container and even eat a few pieces from it (the source!). He loves canned food which he gets twice a day; about an ounce morning and evening.

Geordie uses a vertical scratching post for stretching and playing. He's at a stage when his claws are especially sharp and can be painful when he's playing on my legs. He's also at an age when he's chewing on everything. Toys, his sister and even my pants are prime targets. He's a good eater and a diligent groomer. They've been using Yesterday's News cat litter.



As He Moves On

Geordie is looking for a home where he can be himself. He wants a safe hiding spot out of the general traffic to run to when he's nervous, but where he can observe and get accustomed to how the environment works. He wants someone patient with him and will-

ing to help him with his uncertainties. Someone who will let him sniff at his own pace so he can decide when he's comfortable with new people and things. From Geordie: "I learned in this fostering situation that I really can love a human. I had thought they were scary, but I now know that if you can give me time and gentle persuasion, we'll be great companions. Don't give up on me even if I seem reserved or aloof. I really need someone like you."

Perdita (left) Geordie (right)

# GEORDIE IS AN AMAZING BOY. HE HAS A ZEST FOR LIFE AND THE ENERGY TO ENJOY ALL THE MOST WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PEOPLE. LOVE, LOVE, LOVE, PURRS, PURRS, PURRS, ....CONTENT, HAPPY, YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND!

Videos with Geordie:

Cat Dancer Play - <u>https://youtu.be/WqgEtBPuFyY</u>

Cuddle Time - <u>https://youtu.be/RVLfX992jFY</u>

Attacking Perdita's Tail - https://youtu.be/FSBSm1giy-I