

Counter Surfing Cats

Is your cat jumping on your table or benches getting to you?

1) Make sure that you have removed anything that could be interesting to the kitten or cat from the bench (Including water). Make sure that tea towels or stools are not being used as handy places to climb. Blocking access to the bench may also help although with adventurous kittens this can prove challenging 😊

2) Set the kitten up in another room during meal preparation times.

3) Every time the cat jumps on the bench, calmly and quietly lift it back to the floor. Nothing needs to be said - be prepared for a lot of repetition.

4) Teach the kitten to go to a specific spot like a mat on the floor:

Place a plastic lid with some mushy food in it on the mat, and when the kitten is on the mat add a little more food (this comes out of the daily food ration). In a matter of days the kittens will prefer to go to the mat and look expectantly at you for food 😊

Place a couple of toys on the mat to give the kitten an alternative to food.



World for Pets are now stocking a book:

“Clicker training for Cats” by Karen Pryor. Karen taught all the cats in her household to go to different spots while she made dinner. In her case the cats each sat on a different kitchen stool, I bet it would make a great photo!

Kittens are particularly open to training, each one will learn a little differently, and they only concentrate for a few seconds at a time, but they are loads of fun.

For more information contact the Animal Training and Behaviour Centre Helpline on (07)3426 9928.



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