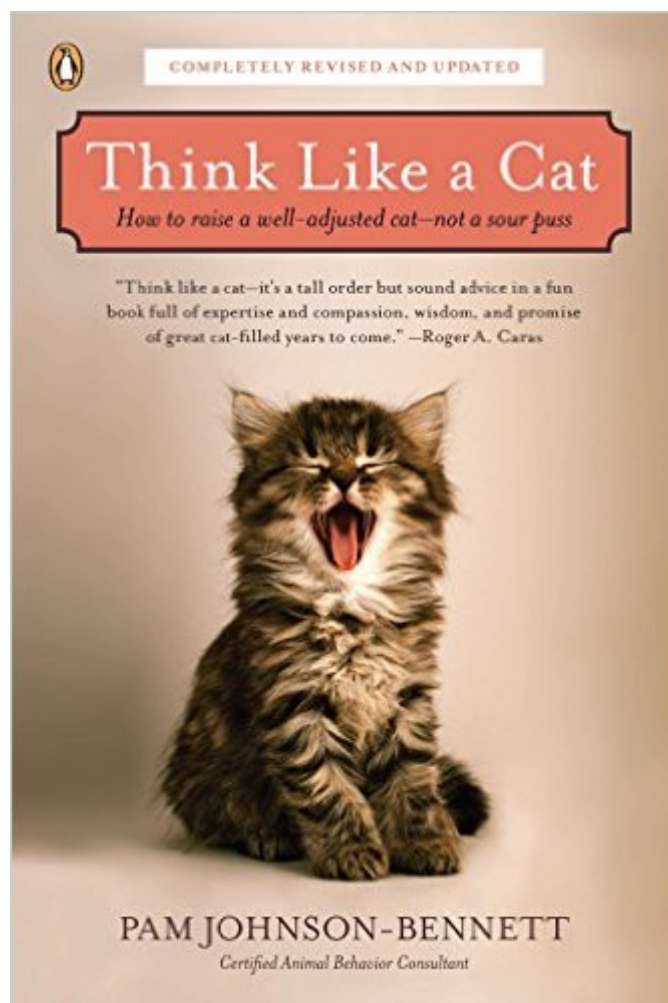


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# Think Like A Cat: How To Raise A Well-Adjusted Cat--Not A Sour Puss



## Synopsis

This is a fully revised and updated edition of the bestselling feline behaviour bible. Thanks to her regular appearances in the media and at veterinary conferences and humane organizations, most cat parents already recognize Pam Johnson-Bennett as the authority on all things feline. The award-winning author and host of Animal Planet UK's Psycho Kitty, has continued to refine her work and techniques. From basic health care to more serious behavioural issues, from training cats to use a scratching post to avoiding litter box problems this newly revised edition of Think Like a Cat covers all of a cat parent's most pressing concerns-and solidifies its position as the topic leader for years to come.

## Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books; Rev Exp Up edition (September 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0143119796

ISBN-13: 978-0143119791

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (229 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,648 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Cats > Training

## Customer Reviews

I own every cat behavior book you have written, including Twisted Whiskers, Hiss and Tell, Tales from a Cat Shrink, and my favorite which is Think Like a Cat. This new and updated book introduces many new methods on helping cats get along, education on nutrition and reading labels, litter box and litter selection - including the much dreaded litter box problems and improper defecation. I have many other behavior books from various authors but haven't learned as much as I have in this one book. I recommend buying this book. There is not a single cat behavior problem that can't be fixed - so what are you waiting for? Read this book!

I got positive results immediately and my three cats are happier. Using the principals in Think Like a Cat, I made a few changes that got us from scratching, waking me up during the night or early morning for food, and getting on the counters incessantly, to sleeping through the night, using the

great new scratching post, and staying off the counters, without yelling, squirting with water, or frustration. I didn't even realize what I had been putting up with. Now I enjoy them so much more, and with the positive changes, I have time to play with them more. My ten year old cat is actually making playful gestures ! They enjoy the new verticle spots I made. My husband wouldn't agree to a cat tree, and I didn't want one either, but I was able to see verticle places where I could make a comfy spot for them around the house, and they are enjoying their new perches. Thank-you !

This is in response to "savvy cat owner," who is clearly not so savvy after all. I have been writing and broadcasting about pets for nearly 20 years, and am a certified cat behavior consultant. I am a founder of the CATalyst Council and serve on that Board; I also serve on the Board of Directors of the Winn Feline Foundation, Tree House Humane Society (in Chicago) and the American Humane Association. I'm a contributor to Dr. Susan Little's upcoming feline text book. I have never written a review on before or offered a comment - but the egregious not so savvy remarks are so incredibly wrong, I was moved to comment. Pam Johnson-Bennett is a pioneer in the world of cat consultation. She was among the first to go from building to building, back when she was in New York City, to help cat owners. So many of us, if not most of us, continue to learn from Ms.Johnson-Bennett. Suggesting her techniques are obsolete is like calling the i-pad obsolete. Ms.Johnson-Bennett is about as current as anyone I know, which is exactly why she felt an updated version of her original "Think Like a Cat" is necessary. The personal attack....really now? I have no idea what that's about, but to set the record straight Ms. Johnson-Bennett was not the founder of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, a dog trainer and family counselor, Lynn Hoover was the founder. Johnson-Bennett was an early member and early on was Chair of the Cat Division. And she did not certify herself. As for recommending material to read by a veterinary behaviorist, YES! But, with the exception of veterinary behaviorist Dr. Kersti Seksel's book "Training Your Cat," and Dr. Nicholas Dodman's cat book from a few years back - all the others are veterinary books. Still, worthwhile for sure - and Ms. Johnson Bennett would agree...The great news is that the veterinary behaviorists are writing a popular press dog book, maybe a cat book will follow. Your "savvy" recommendations won't go far, Dr. Bonnie Beaver is terrific - but the "savvy writer" has her name wrong. And Dr. Karen Overall (and Dr. Beaver) are brilliant....They both know I feel that way...but they have not written a consumer book about cat behavior, Ms. Johnson-Bennett has written several. Actually, I am interested and concerned about behavior techniques you see online. They may actually not be science-based, and may not be such a great idea. In full disclosure, Ms. Johnson-Bennett is a trusted friend, who I adore. Still, I have many friends who write pet books,

many....and those folks don't always get great reviews from everyone who comments - who does? But the "savvy cat owner" comments are so totally off base and inaccurate, I had to comment. As I've said before, Ms. Johnson-Bennett understands everything that is fundamental to cat behavior, I think she must be part cat. Increasingly, publishers are paving the way for more cat books, from Dewey the Library Cat to Homer the Blind Cat (I LOVE THAT BOOK!), to cat behavior consultants as authors, like Darlene Arden and Marilyn Krieger....and I have an Ebook due out before Christmas, called "Good Cat," but Ms. Johnson-Bennett paved the way for all of us. And as a result, she has saved countless cats' lives. Her work merits a lifetime achievement award.

I have not finished this book yet but have gotten more than my money's worth. My plan is to reread this after completing it the first pass, and then referencing it often. I'm not actually nuts, I have good reason for my thoroughness. My husband and I recently lost our beloved cat Isis, after 19 years together. The loss was all but devastating to us. We have a second cat, an elderly male who is now 13-years old, and was also grieving the loss. After a couple of weeks of the three of us wallowing in pain, we decided to adopt a rescue animal-companion. We left ourselves open to adopting as many as three. It would give us a total of four cats which we felt we could manage financially, but more importantly we would be able to meet the time and attention needs of a maximum of four. Within a matter of 21 days we all but fell into three separate adoptions. The newbies range in age from about 5 months to just now 5 weeks. They had a range of issues from two of them being underweight, one being found off of the side of an expressway and the youngest that was weeks too young to be away from her mother or at the very, very least her other litter mates. Adding to our challenges has been misrepresented ages and that we brought them into the house in stages, but still rather fast. The oldest of the new adoptees, a male that was stated to be 13-weeks, (turned out to be closer to 18 weeks) came home to us on April 14th. The next a female stated to be 13-weeks, (turned out to be closer to 7 weeks) came home on April 30th. The assumption had been that the two "13-week old kittens" would be able to play and keep one another company. In actuality after two weeks of solid meals and a safe environment, the male blossomed adding nearly three pounds in the 24 DAYS we've had him. He is no longer the scrawny, feeble-looking, nearly feral kitten that he appeared to be. He's healthy and inquisitive and wonderful! BUT, now there is a clear 4-pound difference between these two kittens. Play must be monitored as he learns his strength and she learns her limits. Adding to that, we have a ONE-POUND kitten that came home with us on May 4th. They had represented her to be nearly 8 weeks, as it turns out she was much closer to 4. She was supposedly weaned, but "torn" is a better description. She wants to play with the others but it is

even more important that limits be set for her. Adding into this collage of personalities and specific needs, we have our elderly cat. He is doing better every day but this has been no easy transition for him. So how does all of this relate to this book? The information has been incredibly helpful! Instead of attempting to force our version of integration on each of these incredible life forms, we are seeing life from their perspectives. It changes EVERYTHING! There are so many things that never even would have crossed our minds. I'm making "puzzle feeders" for our 5-month old to help him with some of his innate need to "figure things out". He also requires a GREAT deal more release for his excess energy, where the two girls need a great deal more rest. Separate spaces, safe hiding places, access to "escape routes" from one another, all of these things are different when looked at from the floor of our house UP, rather than looking around or DOWN on what is available to them. I have rambled on way too long, but I will say that I HIGHLY recommend this book! One quick note regarding the one-star reviews stating that this was either not informative enough or that they disagree with keeping cats inside the home, I just could not disagree more. I had no idea of the blood types of cats, had never heard of a puzzle feeder and never considered whether or not I could have a real impact on the emotional wellness of each of these tossed-together lives on anything like the level that we have. We are doing many things now intentionally rather than accidentally bumping into ideas that may have been helpful. It feels fantastic to offer such a stable environment to them all. When it come to the idea of keeping cats confined, I think this probably depends. If one has many acres of safe spaces for a cat then sure, in and out is probably fine. In either a suburban or urban setting this is just not the case. If one simply looks around at their neighborhood and notices the lack of weeds in the lawns due to routine weed-killing regimes, watches strays without adequate immunization, observes the number of cars in their area including distracted drivers, and considers the very real possibility of someone's intentional malice towards their cat, it changes the concept of "keeping them prisoner". Also, if one feels their home to be a prison, the cats are probably not the biggest issue they may have. Home should never feel this way to either us or our animal companions. I agreed with the author. We may debate whether or not to spay, neuter and/or declaw. We can debate whether or not they should be allowed to roam the neighborhoods or remain within the home. What we should not debate, should be able to in fact agree on, is that each of these decisions will impact the entire life cycle of another living being. They are completely dependent on us to make these decisions based not on our opinions, but rather what is in the best interest of the animals, based solely on facts. This book offers factual statements of what is in the best interest of our cats. This is a well researched book that offers those of us sharing our lives with cats, insights that we simply might not have considered or been offered in any other way. Great book

that I have already planned to also purchase in paperback for quick reference.

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