

Keeping Cats Indoors & Cat Enclosures

Although cats are smart & alert, they are no match for the many perils that await them outside. That's why the average lifespan for an outdoor cat is 5 years, compared to an average lifespan of 15 years for an indoor cat!

Examples of Dangers to Outdoor Cats

- **Cars:** Cats are incapable of understanding something that moves as quickly as a car. Cars kill countless outdoor cats every day.
- **Animal Attacks:** Dogs, coyotes, raccoons, and other animals may attack and wound or kill cats. Other cats may fight with yours, and cause injuries that could lead to infections, disease, and abscesses.
- **Disease:** Outdoor cats encounter other cats, and can pick up life-threatening diseases. Many of these communicable diseases have no effective vaccine and no cure.
- **Accidents:** Besides car accidents, outdoor cats are in danger of being poisoned, getting caught in traps set for other animals, getting closed into buildings and starving, and countless other accidents which can easily befall a cat.
- **Human Malice:** Not everyone loves cats. There are those people who may torture and/or kill any they find. There are people who intentionally poison cats because they "dig up their garden", and there are sadistic people who torture and kill animals for amusement. Keep your cat safe from these sick people, keep her indoors!

So, please consider keeping your cat strictly indoors, or you can consider building a cat enclosure. **Cat Enclosures** offer a safe way for your cat to enjoy fresh air and sun. For more information on building an enclosure please visit these websites:

<http://catnet.stanford.edu/articles/enclosures.html> (contains links to all the following sites)

Build your own enclosure:

<http://www.just4cats.com>

http://home.earthlink.net/~tonks3/pets_outside2.htm

Pre-Built enclosures:

<http://www.cd pets.com/enclosure.html>

<http://www.cde-animalcages.com>

<http://www.kittywalksystems.com> (portable)

Systems that work with existing fenced yards:

<http://www.catfencein.com>

<http://www.feralcat.com/fence.html>