

CAT BEHAVIOR

The Socialization Continuum

Adapted from Alley Cat Allies
(<https://www.alleycat.org/resources/cat-socialization-continuum-guide/>)



SOCIALIZED

- **Vocalizes (chirp, meow)**
- **Approaches**
- **Allows touch**
- **Raises ears regularly**
- **Raises tail**
- **Relaxed posture**
- **May reach towards a person**
- **Rubs, kneads, and plays**
- **Purrs**
- **Sniffs**
- **Exposes stomach**
- **Stays visible during the daytime**
- **May show interest in household sounds**

UNSOCIALIZED

- **Does not vocalize with chirps and meows**
- **Runs and hides from approaching person**
- **Does not allow touch**
- **Keeps ears back or flat**
- **Tail tightly wrapped around body**
- **Tense posture**
- **Swipes or lashes out at people**
- **Dilated pupils**
- **Hisses, growls, and howls**
- **Crouches or crawls**
- **Not relaxed around people**
- **Hides during the daytime**
- **Shows no interest in household sounds**

