

HOW TO HARNESS TRAIN YOUR CAT

INTRODUCTION

Hello, to you fellow explorer!

We are Julie, Daniel & Nala from
@Purrfectbuslife.

The three of us have been living on the open roads of Australia in our Vintage Mazda Bus since October 2020.

Nala, our rescued Cat was your average yet content house cat with no prior training before jumping into buslife with us & now she is a true explorer!

We document our travels as we love sharing Nala's progress & journey from a skittish shelter cat to the professional explorer she is now but also to share the knowledge we learned the hard way about buslife with a cat in Australia & encourage all pet owners to be the responsible kind.

So, this is why we create Free guides from hands-on experience for you all to enjoy!

1. INTRODUCTIONS ??

Let your cat familiarise itself with the smell & texture of this new object, simply put the new harness on the floor in the same room as your Cat & wait for them to become acquainted.

2. HARNESSING YOUR CAT 🐱

Put the harness on your cat but don't fasten it just yet, instead watch how your Cat reacts to this new thing. When your cat is comfortable with having the harness on then move on to fastening the harness on your kitty.

Use positive behavior reinforcement each time your kitty is cooperative.

🔗 Many cats will flop & play dead the first times they wear a harness and it's ok.

It's because cats don't realize they can move while wearing a harness, but they will understand with time.

We recommend playing with your cat to create a distraction.

3. HARNESS TRAINING AT HOME ?

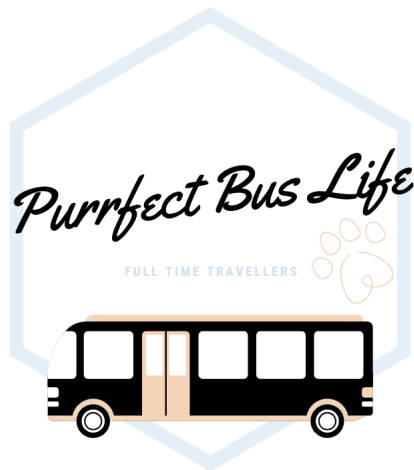
Have a dedicated time for harness training at home & keep at it (consistency is 🔗)

From experience, a short session each day works best, but slowly increase the amount of time your Cat wears the harness. One of the biggest milestones you will get through is to witness your cat not only walking, trotting, or playing in their harness but it is to witness a jump!

This will indicate that your Cat has fully understood the harness is not an obstacle to its freedom.

4. LEASH ON ?

Ok now, what is the point of having a harness on if you don't have a leash right? So it is time to get your Cat familiarised with walking on a leash and we definitely recommend doing so before getting past the front door. Don't try to control your Cat, let your cat walk you around but still let your Cat familiarise itself with that "pull feeling" from the leash. Positive reinforcement treats, and distraction Sare all still welcome at this stage!



HOW TO HARNESS TRAIN YOUR CAT

INTRODUCTION

Hello, to you fellow explorer!

We are Julie, Daniel & Nala from
@Purrfectbuslife.

The three of us have been living on the
open roads of Australia in our Vintage
Mazda Bus since October 2020.

Nala, our rescued Cat was your average
yet content house cat with no prior
training before jumping into buslife with
us & now she is a true explorer!

We document our travels as we love
sharing Nala's progress & journey from a
skittish shelter cat to the professional
explorer she is now but also to share the
knowledge we learned the hard way
about buslife with a cat in Australia &
encourage all pet owners to be the
responsible kind.

So, this is why we create Free guides
from hands-on experience for you all to
enjoy!

5. LET'S GO OUTSIDE ?

Start small, think close to home such as your garden or
apartment corridor for example.

We recommend choosing a place somewhat familiar & with the
least possible distractions at first. Sometimes to diminish the
amount of distraction simply changing the time at which you
go somewhere has the biggest impact as for traffic increase or
decrease throughout the day.

☑if you go to a park, chose one with the least distraction
possible (wildlife, noise, etc). We only recommend that you
take them somewhere less familiar like a park once your Cat
has established that its backpack or carrier is a safe place so
that kitty always has this to fall back if uncomfortable at any
point.

6. LEVEL UP ??

Slowly increase the amount of time you spend outside
together. Slowly, change locations & increase the number of
distractions. This is the most ongoing step as there are infinite
options as to what you can do outdoor together, some kitty
hike, kayaks, swim, or even ski, but remember everyone is on
their own journey and it also goes for your kitty, so no pressure
there. Just remember to always be safe, build confidence and
have fun.

☑Always bring your Cat's place with you and other essential to
ensure both of you are safe☑

6. CONSISTENCY ?

Consistency is key.

Don't allow your Cat to forget all the progress made, all the
skills and confidence acquired!

The best way is simply to keep at it, don't allow too much time
between each Cat Exploring sessions

⚠ Always let kitty decide what to do, watch your Cat's body
language to see if it becomes uneasy, uncomfortable or unhappy
exploring & if so don't force your Cat to continue the training
session. Let's return to your Cat's safe place & find inner peace
again.