



Taken from www.stopdeclaw.com

PLEASE...IF YOU LOVE YOUR CAT...DON'T DECLAW!!!

Dr. Nicholas Dodman, Professor of Behavioral Pharmacology and Director of the Behavior Clinic at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine and internationally known specialist in domestic animal behavioral research, explains declawing:

- ♥♥ Don't declaw!
- ♥♥ Understand your cat's need to scratch.
- ♥♥ Forget punishment--it doesn't work.
- ♥♥ Provide a suitable place for your cat to scratch.
- ♥♥ Make the scratching post or tree attractive to Kitty-- i.e. use sisal posts, leave treats at the top.
- ♥♥ Make the place she's been scratching unattractive--physical or scent related deterrents. Clap your hands and say no if you catch them. Put 2 sided tape on the places kitty scratches.
- ♥♥ Whenever possible, start training your cat young.
- ♥♥ Trim your cat's claws about once a week.
- ♥♥ Use gel claw covers to humanely break your cat's habit of clawing the furniture or woodwork. Then reintroduce him to his scratching post or tree.

"The inhumanity of the procedure is clearly demonstrated by the nature of cats' recovery from anesthesia following the surgery. Unlike routine recoveries, including recovery from neutering surgeries, which are fairly peaceful, declawing surgery results in cats bouncing off the walls of the recovery cage because of excruciating pain. Cats that are more stoic huddle in the corner of the recovery cage, immobilized in a state of helplessness, presumably by overwhelming pain. Declawing fits the dictionary definition of mutilation to a tee. Words such as deform, disfigure, disjoin, and dismember all apply to this surgery. Partial digital amputation is so horrible that it has been employed for torture of prisoners of war, and in veterinary medicine, the clinical procedure serves as model of severe pain for testing the efficacy of analgesic drugs. Even though analgesic drugs can be used postoperatively, they rarely are, and their effects are incomplete and transient anyway, so sooner or later the pain will emerge."