

Seven Simple Alternatives to Declawing

- 1.** A tall, heavy sisal scratching post sprinkled occasionally with catnip is the favored alternative. You may want to try using an old tree stump, as some cats like to scratch on wood. A good idea is to use a wide variety of scratching posts in order to provide your cat with several alternatives. Place posts near any object the cat is scratching inappropriately.
- 2.** When buying new furniture, choose a tightly woven fabric. Cats find it difficult to pierce with their claws.
- 3.** The addition of a second cat often relieves boredom and helps to eliminate intentionally destructive behavior.
- 4.** If accustomed to the procedure, cats will tolerate having their claws clipped regularly. Consult your veterinarian for instructions.

- 5.** Interrupt the undesired behavior with a loud clap of your hands. Then show your cat the right place to scratch and praise him/her for doing so.
- 6.** Talk to your veterinarian or groomer about Soft Paws. Soft Paws are temporary caps which are placed over your cats nails to prevent damage done by scratching. Your vet or groomer can show you how to apply them.
- 7.** Covering favorite scratching areas with clear plastic or double-faced tape discourages clawing. Some cats will not bother furniture protected by a cover throw.