

# PURRRFECT MEMORIES

CAPTURE STUNNING KEEPSAKE  
PHOTOS OF YOUR CAT



Hi cat lovers!

We all know that cats are more than just our "pets", they are our most treasured family members, with their own unique personalities and quirks!

Capturing their essence in photographs is a way to freeze time, to preserve their memories forever and to showcase the special bond you share with your beloved cat.

A great portrait captures not only your cat's likeness but also their attitude, personality, and any other traits or features that shape their unique character!

Think about the photos you have of your cat now. Are they blurry, poorly lit, or just not quite capturing the essence of your cat? Don't worry, you're not alone!

Taking photos of cat can be a challenge, but with a few tips, you can start taking photographs that are not only sharp and well-lit but also truly captivating!

With our tips coming up in this guide, you'll be well on your way to capturing beautiful, one-of-a-kind photos of your cat that you may even want to frame on your wall!

Remember that patience is the key to success, to never force your cat to do anything they don't want to do, and to have fun!

*Nicola*



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## Shoot Candidly

Candid shots are, of course, different from, posed shots. The former can add refreshing touch to the portrait while posed shots can sometimes be stiff and plain.

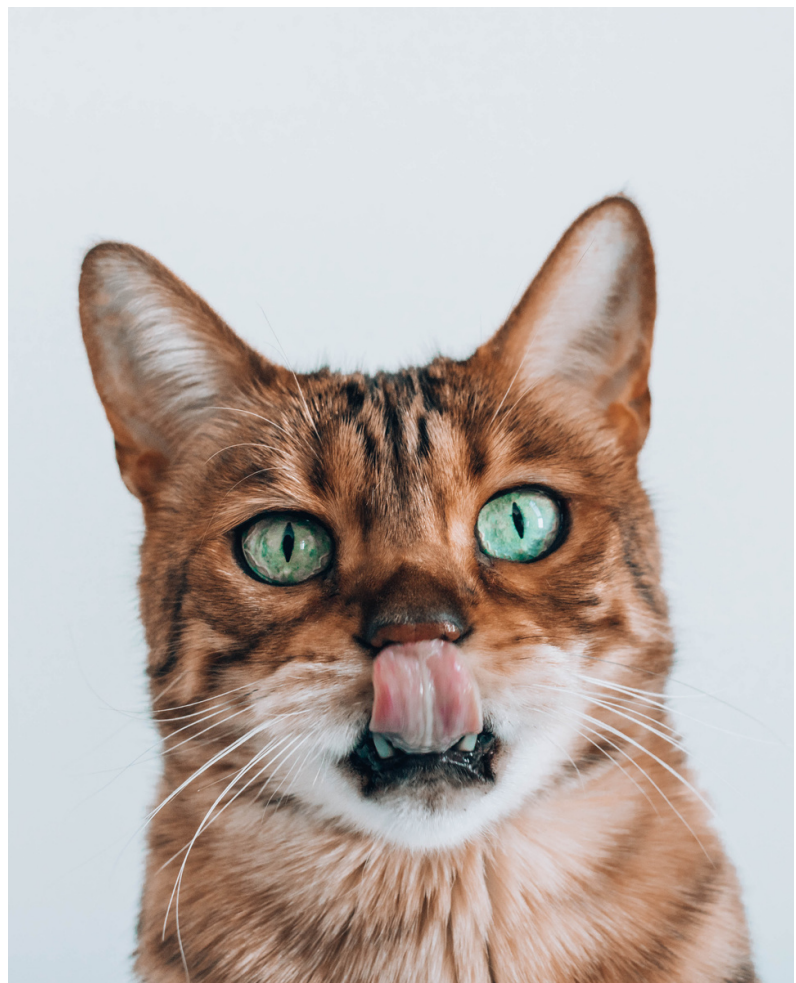
Try photograph your cat while he/she is busy doing something. Shoot continuously or set your camera to a burst so that it continues to click, capturing different angles, which you can later choose your best work from.

You cannot really expect cats to pose for you (although with practice, patience and treats you will get better at this), they are naturally active and highly temperamental.

They rely on instinct all the time so you must expect distractions to come your way and for your cat's attention to be diverted at a moment's notice. It is rather tricky to teach your cat to take the pose you exactly want. So instead, you need to be like the paparazzi!

Catch them doing something cute and clever and funny; or when you think they're about to do something very mischievous, sneak up on them and start clicking away.

You'll be surprised at how good the pictures can be.



## Toys and Treats

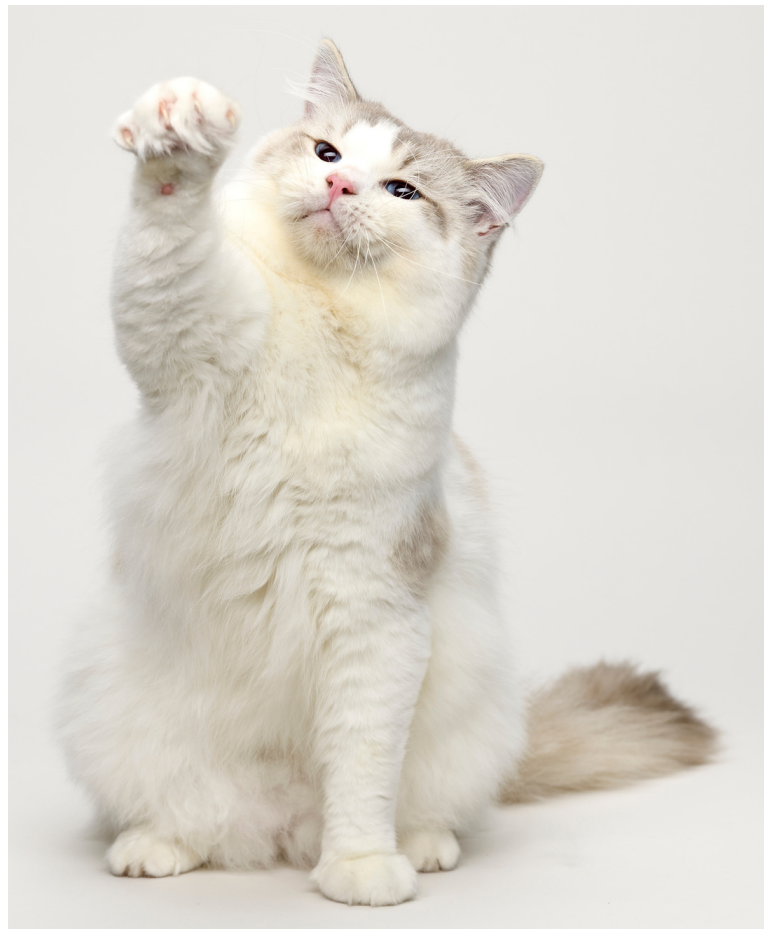
Toys and treats can be useful props to help engage your cat's attention and create dynamic and expressive poses in your photos.

One of the most effective ways to use toys is to dangle them in front of your cat to encourage it to look in the direction of the camera. You can also use toys to coax your cat into jumping or playing, creating movement and energy in your photos. Brightly colored toys that make noise, like jingle balls or crinkle toys, can be especially helpful in capturing your cat's attention.

Treats can also be a useful tool for getting your cat's attention in photos. Try offering a treat just out of frame, so your cat looks in the direction of the camera. Or you can use a treat to get your cat to perform a specific action, like sitting or standing, which can result in a more posed and organized photo. When using treats, be sure to use them in moderation, as overfeeding your cat can have negative effects on its health.

Finally, it's important to remember to take your time and be patient when taking photos of your cat.

Try to take photos in a calm and familiar environment, and be patient as your cat gets used to the camera and the attention.



## Perspective

Traditional rules say that you take pictures pointing your camera at an eye level while your cat looks at the lens to convey communication.

If you can get yourself on the floor, in the right position while keeping enough distance between you and your cat, your efforts will be worth it.

However, you could also achieve amazing photos if you can change that perspective and try adding some randomness by getting high off the ground then shooting down or going close to the ground and shooting up.

Either way, it will create an angle that will produce an interest to your furry subject.



## Eye Contact

The cutest photos are the ones that show their lovely face. And because cats are smaller than their humans, you might need to really get down to get a clear view of their eyes or get a close shot of their faces.

Try to get your cat to either look away from the camera (the easiest option!) or look within the portrait's frame by holding a treat/toy or clicking your fingers just above or behind your camera so that they look directly into the lens.

The first one can create a sense of candidness as well as can elicit interest and intrigue as people will wonder what he/she is looking at. If your cat is looking within the frame, directly at you, it can create a story of the relationship between you and your cat that draws the interest from the viewer.



## Lighting

Using lights in randomness is a great way to play up with your photography. In fact, limitless possibilities can be created when you know how to play up with the light against your cat.

Silhouetting, backlighting, and sidelighting are some of the techniques to create drama and interest.

You should try to steer your cat towards big window or patio doors, wherever there is the most amount of light.

Try not to use the flash as this can scare some cats and it very rarely looks natural unless you're an absolute pro!

If the room is on the dark side, turn on all the lights and lamps.

Aim to position your cat and/or yourself so the light is falling on the cat's chest and at least half of its face.





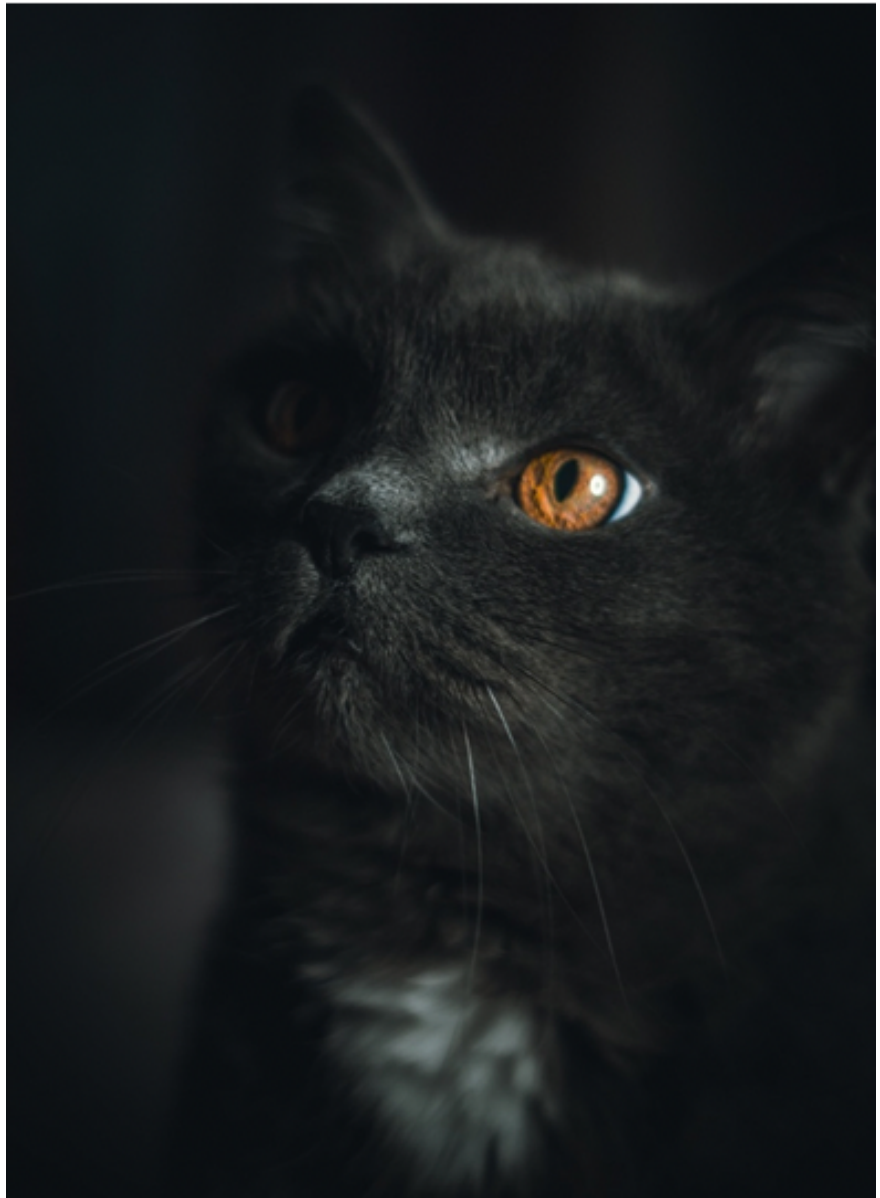
## Props and Backgrounds

Props can add drama and flair to the shots. Use random things for the props, where they can serve as points of interest. Just remember to not take away the spotlight from your primary subject! You can also incorporate your cat's favorite spot in your photos.

If it's a sofa, their favorite sleeping spot or cat tree, try to move it closer to the light source (window) and try to get your cat comfy.

If you can get your cat in front of the TV (one that's turned off) this can provide you with an instant black background.

Cats' eyes often look amazing against black backgrounds so it's a great idea of focus on those and use some editing software to really make them really stand out. We use an amazing free photo editing website called Canva



## Moods

You are probably familiar with your cat's behavior by now; as to whether they feel most sleepy after they're fed or if they're playful during the mornings when it's not too hot or too cold.

If you want to take a photo of them in a specific mood, try to know the patterns when these moods are usually exhibited.



## Go Outdoors

If you've got a safe outside space, a balcony or porch, why not try a few shots outside?

Try to position your cat amongst any nice plants you might have – the greener and more colorful the better! Look for interesting things, colors and textures that you could include in your portraits.

Don't forget to still consider your background, angle and of course your camera settings.



## Cat Treats

Cats will also do things for treats so if you are struggling to get the photo you want, why not try some of her/his favorite treats to get them to look at the camera (or the direction in which you want).

You could also use them in your photographs to add interest to your shot, especially if you catch them licking their lips after having a snack.



## **Use An Assistant**

An extra set of hands can be invaluable when taking photos of your cat. They can get him/her to look your way by squeaking a toy behind your head or holding out a treat.

If you're looking for an action shot, they can throw a scrunched-up piece of paper or their favourite toy, leaving you free to focus on composing your photo.

An assistant can also help gently hold your cat in place if they keep roaming away.

Keep in mind gentle is the key word here! Don't force your cat to pose for a photo if they're not feeling it.

## **Making Your Cat Look Their Best**

And finally, a well-groomed cat always makes a great portrait so dig out that brush!



## Conclusion

Taking quality photos of your fur baby is not the easiest area of photography but you'll feel so proud when you get it right.

The best thing to do is practice, practice, practice!

We hope you found this beginner's guide useful for taking better photos of your cat.

Here's to your amazing photos and wonderful keepsake memories of your cat.



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