

# Declawing Facts: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



## DECLAWING = Amputation of the end bones in the cat's toes

(imagine having to walk without the first toe bones)

**BANNED AND ILLEGAL IN:**  
**22** Countries / **7** U.S. Cities

"Published papers show there is absolutely no correlation between laser declawing and a decrease in the amount of chronic pain and discomfort a cat will experience."

Jackson Galaxy, Cat Behaviorist

"Declawing is so predictably painful that pharmaceuticals use it as a measure to test pain medication."

Jackson Galaxy, Cat Behaviorist



UP TO  
**50%**

of declawed cats develop acute physical complications



**75-95%**

of pet owners change their mind about declawing once they know the risks

## COMMON COMPLICATIONS:

### Litterbox Avoidance

(due to pain, cat uses carpets and soft furniture instead)

Infection / Abscess

Pain / Nerve Damage

Claw Regrowth

Bone Protrusion

Bone Splinter

Aggression / Stress Illness

Phantom Pain

Change in Personality

Biting / Depression

Chronic Back and Joint Pain

Lameness

Arthritis

Cystitis / Eczema

## Instead, Train Your Cat!

- Use scratching posts and scratch pads. Discover what surfaces your cat likes best. Provide a variety throughout your home. Rub catnip on post and place at base to entice and engage kitty.
- Play with your cat on areas you want them to scratch to encourage their use. Praise with a treat!
- Use sticky tape and/or deterrent sprays to protect surfaces.
- Purchase Feliway pheromone spray to help reduce any stress.
- Keep cat's nails trimmed.
- Soft Paws, a temporary nail cover, is another alternative to explore (as a last resort, because if not applied correctly, infections can occur. We've found simply keeping the nails trimmed has the same benefit as Soft Paws).



## For additional training tips...

- Read Jackson Galaxy's tutorial. Search online: "JACKSON CATS AND CLAWS LIVING HAPPILY EVER AFTER."
- Watch the documentary, "The Paw Project" by veterinarian, Dr. Jennifer Conrad, about declawing. The Paw Project can be rented inexpensively online (iTunes, U-verse, Dish, or Amazon). Visit [PawProject.org](http://PawProject.org) to learn more, and find links to the trailer and documentary.
- Visit [PlannedPethood.org](http://PlannedPethood.org) for additional links about declawing and ways to train your cat to desired behavior.