



15. THE PETS AS THERAPY TEMPERAMENT ASSESSMENT TEST

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE TEMPERAMENT TEST FOR YOUR CAT

Cats need to.....

- ❖ Be willing to explore, but settle quickly in a novel environment

Why?

Cats need to be confident and interested in their surroundings but also be able to relax in a new environment. The types of environment that PAT cats are expected to enter are very different from a home environment

- ❖ Willingly approach and make contact with a stranger

Why?

Unlike dogs, cats naturally take their time to approach people.. PAT cats need to be willing to actively approach and interact with strangers that they meet on visits

- ❖ Respond to an approaching stranger and not run away and hide

Why?

Some cats don't like people to approach them directly. A PAT cat needs to accept an approach from a stranger. It can be very upsetting for a patient or client if an animal rejects their approach

- ❖ Enjoy being held by a stranger without signs of fearfulness, anxiety or attempting to escape

Why?

Being held or restrained is not natural for cats and they often won't accept it readily. All cats have a natural threshold for being held and PAT cats need to accept and enjoy being held and cuddled by a stranger

- ❖ Accept and enjoy being stroked

Why?

Again, cats have a threshold for being stroked or patted. PAT cats need to have a high tolerance of tactile contact with humans

- ❖ Be clean, well- groomed, fit and healthy

Why?

A fit and healthy animal will behave appropriately and will be more willing to accept novel environments and approaches from strangers