

SHADOE
November 8, 2017 Update



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHADOE
October 31, 2017
1 year old

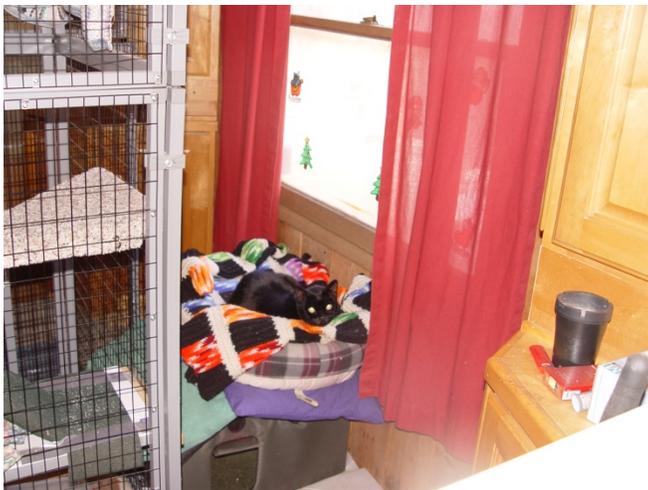
We decided to set SHADOE's birthday on Halloween, October 31, 2016, mainly because it was just easier to remember and appropriate for a black cat. Also, we calculated that date from the vet's estimate that she was about 6mos in April 2017 when she was spaded.

In MAY we purchased this "cat condo" --- a 3ft x 5ft wide by 6ft high cage Kitty Condo Model 535 <http://www.mypetcages.com/product.asp?specific=90> It has been a tremendous way to help us get close to her and socialize her. For now, the only difference is that we no longer latch the doors, therefore she can roam freely. However, we cannot remove the "cat condo" YET since it still serves as a "safety" zone for her sleeping quarters and is the most receptive area for us to pet and pick her up. Starting in January 2018 we will redesign it and size the "cat condo" down to half.

We have setup a "transition" area near the "cat condo". FIRST - We purchased this heated house <https://www.chewy.com/kh-pet-products-extra-wide-outdoor/dp/128065>



SECOND -- We placed a kitty bed with blankets and pillows on top of it.



She REALLY enjoys resting in front of the window and we have set it high enough that when the window is open she can look out and smell the great outdoors.

So far, she will only roam around on the 1st floor --- She has not ventured upstairs – YET!!!

She is most comfortable in the room with her "cat condo".

She will venture into the kitchen, living room and mud room with great reservation.



She has a funny little "chirp" or "meow" when she wants food. Daddy *HOOMAN* is the recipient of her chatter more than me --- I am able to hold her more than Daddy... so for now it all equals out. The **ONLY** place we can pick her up is in her "cat condo". We need to be able to approach her and or have her come to us outside her comfort zone....i.e. the "cat condo".....definitely we are taking "small steps" in this socialization process. But unfortunately what this means that IF we have an emergency and have to gather the furrkids (evacuate) it is very possible that she would be left behind IF she is outside her "cat condo".

About 2 weeks ago we introduced her to the "back room" and placed her in the bed with GIZMO. This new area gives her access to the back of the house. The open window provides different "smells" and views too.

GIZMO is the elder cat at 15 years old. They are about the same size. GIZMO is mentally "slower" than your normal cat so he doesn't seem to be a threat to her. GIZMO has been just OK, not great, with SHADOE. At least he is not hissing at her. I caught GIZMO grooming her so I will take that as a nice gesture and chalk it up to some progress of her trying to blend in.



Doesn't SHADOE look like a "happy camper"..... NOT !!

.... "bless her heart" she is trying

.... *damnit* I wish she would smile a bit more. :-))))



TQ – 2 YRO

TQ is SHADOE's main best buddy. They play a wrestle quite a lot. He has been a tremendous help and influence to help socialize SHADOE. She has been in love with TQ from early on. Initially when she was caged and unable to freely roam we would observe her behavior whenever TQ would get near her cage. She would be very flirty, roll on her back and try to get near him next to the bars on the cage.



RATCHET – 5 YRO

He gets along very well with TQ
He terrorizes and bullies little old GIZMO
He has a "hissy" attitude toward SHADOE.
I would classify him as our Grinch Cat.

Small Steps is our motto around here.

Hope you enjoyed our "SHADOE" update.

