

# How to Increase your Cat's Water Intake

Most cats are secret drinkers and it's rare, as an owner, to see them drink. However, here are a few top tips to try and encourage your cat to drink more water. This is especially important for cats predisposed to, or suffering from, Feline Urinary Tract Disorder (FLUTD).

- Have multiple water bowls available – in general, cats prefer glass, metal or ceramic dishes compared to plastic ones
- Use bowls of different shapes and sizes. Most cats like drinking out of shallow wider bowl however, some cats prefer to drink out of deeper bowls or even mugs!
- Fill the water container to the brim with fresh, room temperature water
- Feed wet food or at least a mixture of wet and dry food (remembering that dry food is good for their teeth!)
- Add additional water to your cat's food
- Add flavour to your cat's water – for example a small amount of tuna water diluted in their water bowl can encourage them to drink
- Give additional supplementation (e.g. Purina Hydra Care) to increase water absorption, as well as water intake
- Trial a cat water fountain! Some cats really enjoy dripping water which makes a water fountain perfect for them. These are available to buy online or through Lime Trees Vets



- Location, location, location!
  - Choose a place away from their food bowl
  - Cat's prefer to drink in a quiet location so, away from any main thoroughfare

## Avoid

- Lots of sudden changes. Cats find change very stressful so any changes made will need to be done over a period of time
- Salty liquids
- Milk – cat's do not have the ability to fully digest milk therefore may cause diarrhoea!
- Anything containing onions which are poisonous to cats!

## Lime Trees Cat Clinic

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