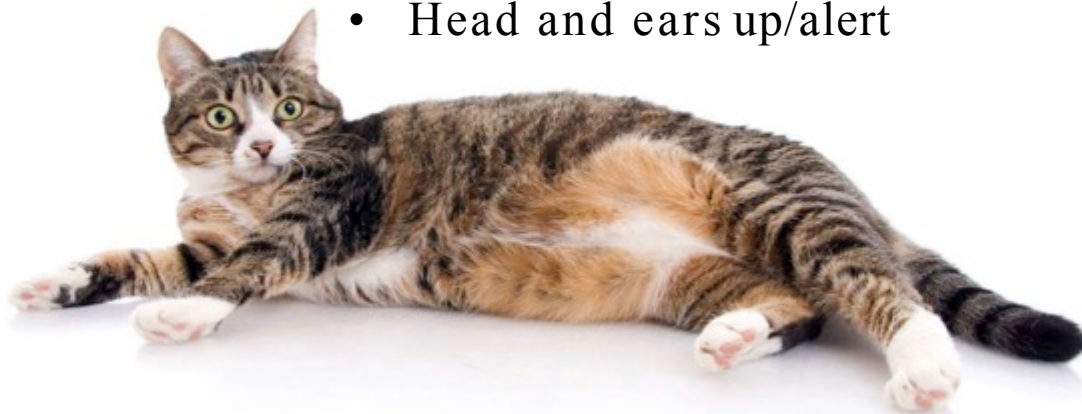


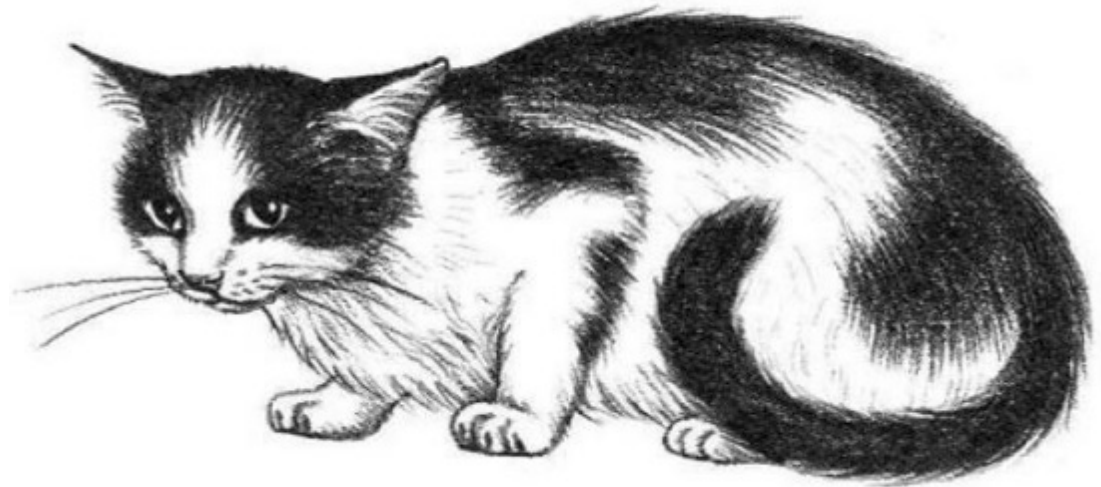
Body posture

Relaxed Confident Cat

- Relaxed pupils
- Paws may make muffins
- Belly semi-exposed
- Whiskers at side
- Head and ears up/alert



Body posture



Anxious Cat

- Body hunched, may be tense
- Ears out to side
- Pupils enlarged
- Tail tucked tight to body, may be hidden

Body posture

Defensive-Aggression

- Pupils fully dilated
- Ears flat/back to body
- Teeth exposed
- Body backed into corner/tight space



Environment

- Aspects to consider while assessing a cat
 - What is the cat smelling
 - Other animals scents
 - Foreign scents
 - What is the cat hearing
 - Other animals or people
 - Loud, sudden noises
 - What is the cat feeling
 - Fear/stress
 - Vibrations from cage or uneven bed
 - What is the cat seeing
 - Is there any enrichment available?
 - Able to see other animals inside/outside



Should I approach/pet?

Friendly, interaction ok



Await approach



No way





When in doubt...

Keep it simple!

Closed



Open



When meeting a new cat



Paws to Consider

- Body language of cat
- Your body language
- Environment

What do both of these greetings have in common



1. Cats have relaxed/accepting body language
2. Hands are extended and relaxed
3. Approach is below face level
4. Cats allowed to make the first move
5. Respect

After greeting a new cat



- Don't push the issue
- Respect boundaries
- Allow the cat to show you where it is comfortable being pet
- Stick to generally accepted places
 - Head
 - Cheeks
 - Chin

Holding a cat

- Don't scruff
- Gently place one hand under/ across the chest and the other under the hind
- Lean cat against your body for additional support
- Supportive not restrictive
- Don't restrict movement of tail or feet
- Allow cat to escape if he/she wants
- Be mindful of how your cat acts while being held and adjust accordingly



Holding a cat – break this down



Holding a cat – break this down



Holding a cat – break this down



Holding a cat – break this down



Holding a cat – break this down



Holding a cat – break this down



Respecting Boundaries

Signs of increasing agitation



- Sudden change in body position
- Cessation of purring
- Twitching of skin
- Head snapping

Cats = Internet Favorites



Cats of the internet



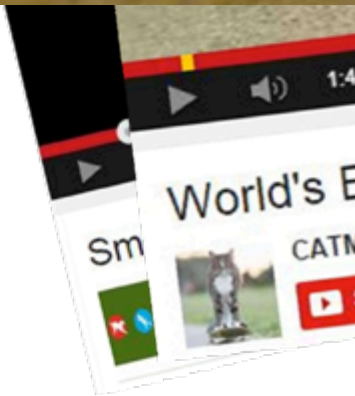
Grumpy Cat

Cats – More than Youtube Jerks



137,531

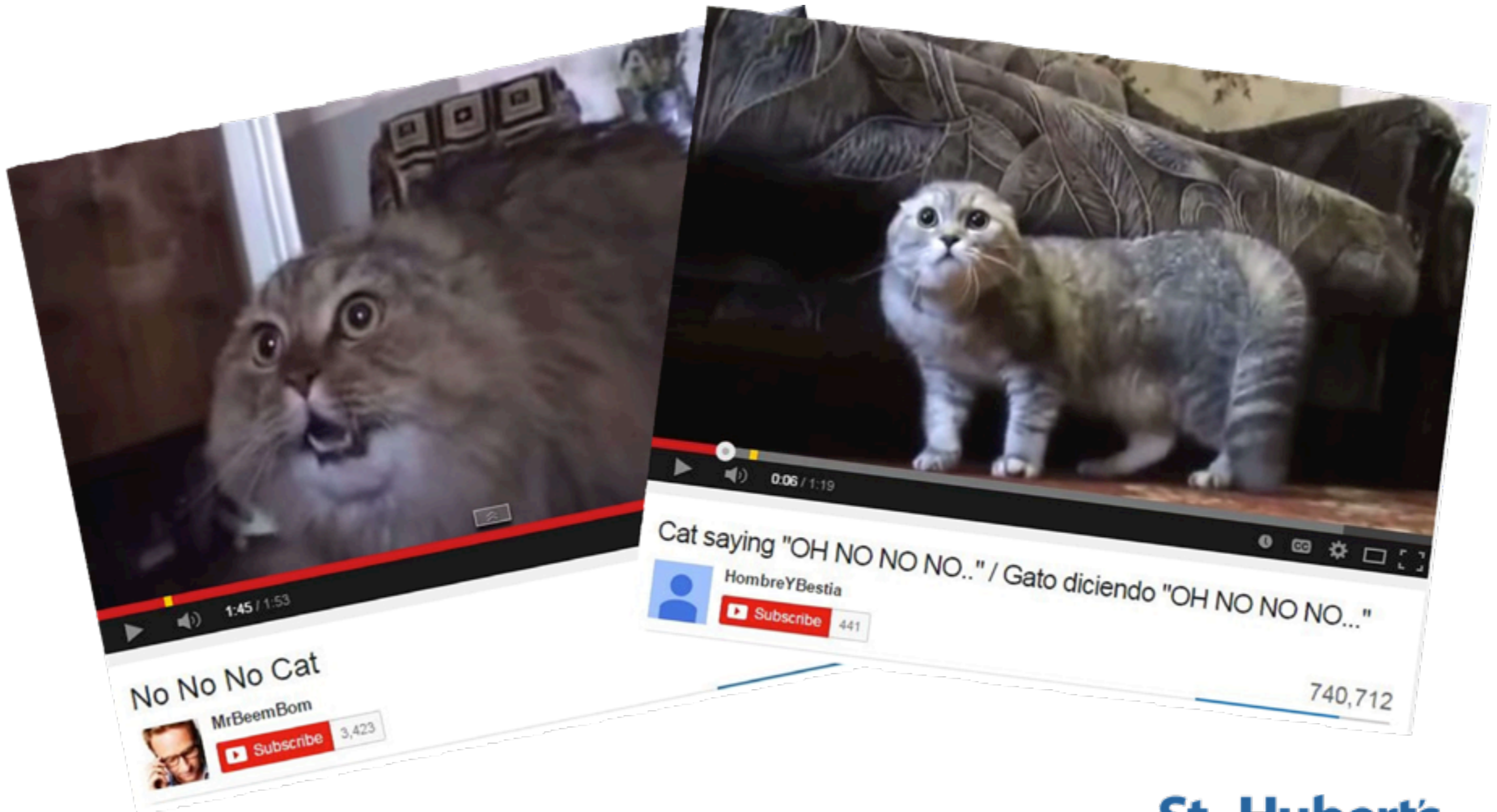
Smart



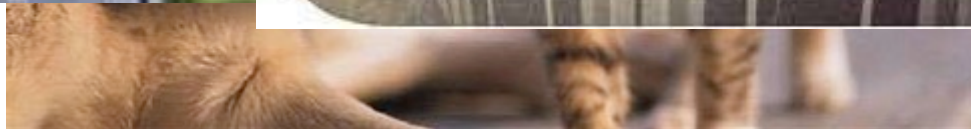
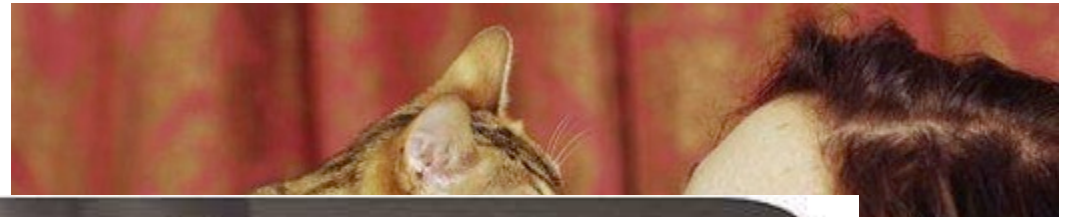
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Misunderstood



Loving



Did you know?





Any questions?

