

## Care for animals

Thought and care for pets is essential and can be a positive driver for both the pet and owner. Adrian shares his concerns for his cat's anxiety and socialization needs.

Adrian:

As I say, it makes it less lonely, that's for sure. I've got a friend who is coming over to take care of him for a weekend because I'm helping out a friend who is moving and who has Parkinson's and needs help to direct the movers. So they are coming over, this other friend to look after the cat. Just feed him and play with him and sit with him for a while. Because he's not used to being left alone for days at a time. So, you know, it's good. She, this person is very fond of my cat. But my cat isn't the cuddliest animal. I got him when he was 3 months old. His mother was feral. And I think they got him too late and the first 3 days he spent hiding under the bed. And even now, he's a very nervous, anxious animal. My friend got some pheromone stuff that I think it's got lavender in it. And you plug it in, and it's supposed to be calming and I think it is helping some too. Cause I mean, he acts like, a bit like having a wild animal in your apartment. If you get an animal too late, sometimes it's very difficult to socialize them. But, you know, that's just the way he is. There's not a lot I can do about him. I pet him a lot, talk to him and play with him, but he's just a very anxious animal.

Mike: Have you had multiple animals at the same time?

Adrian:

Not a lot. Mostly I just have one cat at a time. I would love to have a second cat. If I had a) a bigger place, so that it wasn't so crowded and I had room for a second litter box, more room for them to run. And more money because of vet costs, food costs. I would definitely have a second animal. I think it would do my cat a world of good. I feel bad for him that he doesn't have a cat to play with. The cat I had before this one, I also got from the Humane Society and I had friends living downstairs in the building that I'm in. It's only got 4 apartments. And, this woman had 2 cats and I brought the kitten down and he was an alpha cat, very bossy and very sure of himself. And he went down there and spent probably half his time down there. And so, you know, he was a very happy, socialized, animal, but I don't have any circumstances like that now. This person's moved away and I don't have that, you know, another cat to play with, belonging to somebody else for my cat. So, it's a little difficult. I feel bad that he doesn't have other animals because he is an indoor cat.