

Re: OT: Cat question

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- *From:* "Razamba" <razzamba@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 17 Jun 2005 08:48:56 -0700
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Hi Cindy,

I've been around cats and dogs all my life, and a lot of the times it's just up to them. I had 2 siamese and had to put one of them down 3 years ago (Old-age). Merlin, the "widower" was completely depressed until I finally decided to him a "friend". Well, he went from bad to worse and when he stopped eating I decided i had to give the new one away. It was unfortunate, but like yours, he had seigniority.

Not to sound completely hopeless, I would try to put Shadow in a cat carrier, and let your "queen" and the dog sniff it out. try that for a few days before you open the door, and sit back and watch (carefully) what happens.

CindyB wrote:

- > We have a female cat, Sheba, a couple of years old and queen of the castle. Has never been around other animal since we adopted her at about 7 weeks of age. Strictly an indoor cat.
- >
- > We have a male dog, Rascal, 9-1/2 years old. Mutt - part beagle, part terrier (who knows what kind of terrier). Mostly an indoor dog. Only goes out with human supervision. Has never been around any other animals except Sheba.
- >
- > Introduce Shadow, a stray cat with brilliant yellow eyes and a bob tail. Longish fur, dark brown with red highlights. Could be very beautiful if cleaned up. She's been "ours" for at least a month now.
- > Stays outside. Wants to come inside. It's been determined that she's female.
- >
- > We've taken Rascal out to see Shadow. Sometimes he barks his fool head off and sometimes he's just curious. Shadow is a little afraid of him and usually runs from him. If Rascal isn't held onto, he'll chase her but never catches her. (Wouldn't have the faintest idea what to do if he did catch her.)
- >
- > Today, while Rascal was outside, we let Shadow into the house to see what would happen. Sheba took one look, meowed, hissed, and ran into

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- > the basement to hide. Shadow walked around the house for about 5
- > minutes just checking things out. Then we took her back outside and
- > brought Rascal back in.
- >
- > Since then, Sheba has been meowing, hiding in bookcases, looking over
- > her shoulder, and generally acting like she thinks Shadow is still
- > here and ready to pounce.
- >
- > We really like the new cat. She's playful and affectionate. Sheba is
- > Queen. Not all that playful and affectionate when she feels like it.
- > But we would never replace her. She was here first. Well, actually,
- > Rascal was here first and will never be replaced either.
- >
- > Question #1. Is this normal behavior?
- > Question #2. Is it possible to get the 3 animals to coexist in 1
- > house?
- > Question #3. If it's possible, how would we go about it without
- > traumatizing any of the animals?
- >
- > Thanks for any advice.
- > CindyB

• **Follow-Ups:**

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◇ From: CindyB

◆ **Re: OT: Cat question**

◇ From: kathycarp

• **References:**

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◇ From: CindyB

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