

*What sort  
of competitive  
classes are there?*

## Pedigreed Competition

All pedigreed cats have a written standard describing the ideal example of the breed. Judges compare each cat against its breed's standard.

The three pedigreed competitive classes are:

### Kitten

Cats are shown in the kitten class from four to eight months of age. When they reach eight months old, they advance to one of the two adult classes...

### Championship

For sexually intact cats. When these cats finish their show career and have demonstrated that they are great examples of their breed, they often then become part of a breeding program.

### Premiership *or*

For spayed and neutered cats. Sometimes these cats may have been former championship cats who are no longer breeding. Often they are cats which are a good example of the breed standard, but not needed in a breeding program.

## Household Pet Competition

For non-pedigreed cats or pedigreed cats which do not meet their breed's standard. They may begin exhibiting at four months old. When they reach eight months of age, they must be spayed or neutered. They may not be declawed. As there is no breed standard, these cats are judged on purely appearance, grooming, health/condition, and temperament/personality.

## Agility Competition

Cats run an obstacle course in an enclosed area. Their run is timed, and they receive points for each obstacle that they complete. For pedigreed and non-pedigreed cats alike.  
More information is available at [agility.cfa.org](http://agility.cfa.org)

**Discover**  
*how you and your cat  
can join in on the fun!*



## Companion Cat World

Created for your feline companion at home! Receive savings on products for cats, special offers from CFA and its partners, and compete for regional, national, and world titles.  
[www.cfa.org/ccw](http://www.cfa.org/ccw)

## Household Pet Competition

You can show your wonderful kitty if it is spayed or neutered and not declawed. Your cat can compete with other household pets and earn ribbons, rosettes, and titles awarded by the judges.  
[www.cfa.org/HHP](http://www.cfa.org/HHP)

## Junior Fanciers

Fosters growth and development of CFA youth through various program activities including breed education, cat show preparation and presentation, and community service.  
[yfep.cfa.org](http://yfep.cfa.org)

*come join the fun!*

## The Cat Fanciers' Association®

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[www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org)

*What's Happening  
at the Cat Show?*



**THE CAT  
FANCIERS'  
ASSOCIATION**

# Cat Show Guide



## Frequently Asked Questions about cat shows

### May I touch the cats at the show?

We know that it is very tempting to touch the show cats when they are being groomed for the judging ring. However, we ask that spectators not touch the cats without the owner's permission.

A lot of work goes into bathing and grooming the cats in preparation for the show and some exhibitors would prefer that spectators not touch their cats.



When you watch the judge you will notice that they wash their hands in between handling of each cat. Cats have a very acute sense of smell and are sensitive to any new scents, especially from an unfamiliar cat.

### When is a good time to talk to an exhibitor?

A cat show can be a very busy environment. Exhibitors are often preoccupied with listening for their cats' numbers to be called to a ring, grooming their cats, or taking an opportunity to speak with other exhibitors. Unless they are otherwise occupied, the majority of exhibitors will be delighted to speak with you. If a particular exhibitor is unable to answer your questions immediately, please revisit them at a less busy time.



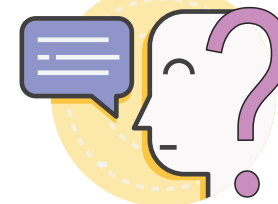
### May I take photos of the cats?



Yes, you may take photos at the show. Please ask permission of the cat's owner, especially if you are in close proximity to the cat and plan on using a flash with your camera.

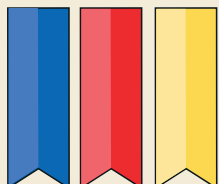
### May I ask a judge questions?

If a judge is not engaged in the handling and evaluation of the cats, they will be pleased to answer any questions you might have. Please remember that the judge's first priority is the evaluation of the cats presented to the ring for judging. It is best to ask your questions from your seat instead of walking into the ring.

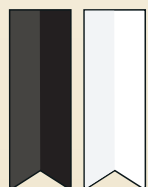


## What Do Those Ribbons Mean?

The judges hang a LOT of ribbons while judging! Here's a guide as to what they represent.



**First, Second and Third Place (blue, red, yellow)** in the color, title-level (grand or not) sex group. Cats within a given color class, same title level, and of the same gender are ranked by the judge. This is the first step in selecting the best cat of a given breed.



**Best and Second Best of Color (black, white)**  
All the cats within a given color class are then ranked by the judge regardless of their gender. This is the second step in selecting the best cat of a given breed.

**Household Pet Merit Award (red and white or solid green)**  
A judge awards this ribbon to Household Pet entries with great personalities who are in good condition and well-groomed.



### Best Champion or Premier (purple)

When a judge evaluates each breed, some of the cats will be champions (premiers if spayed or neutered) while the rest will be grand champions/premiers. This ribbon is awarded to the best of the champions/premiers and allows the cat to earn points towards becoming a grand champion or grand premier.

To become a grand champion a champion must defeat 200 other champions, a grand premier must defeat 75 other premiers.

### Best and Second Best of Breed (brown, orange)

All the cats within the breed are now ranked by the judge regardless of their color or gender. This is the final step in selecting the best cat of a given breed.



### Finals Rosettes

Each judge presents his or her choice of the top cats in Kitten, Championship, Premiership and Household Pet classes. These cats represent the "Best in Show" for each individual judge.

## How Can I Learn More About the Breeds of Cats?

CFA has information about all of its breeds on its website  
[www.cfa.org/Breeds](http://www.cfa.org/Breeds)

Discover more about each breed unique, its history, traits, and personality.

The Ragdoll (below) and the Devon Rex are two of CFA's most popular breeds

