



Maclaw Wheel Training Tips

We have included a **free feather toy** with your new wheel to help with training. 😊
Below you will find our top tips to help you and your cat/s get started on the Maclaw Wheel.

- ✚ After assembly, we highly recommend leaving your cat/s free to explore the wheel themselves for a few hours, this allows for plenty of time to explore the strange new object and get familiar with the new smells in your home.

It's very common for cats to jump on top of the wheel whilst they explore it, once they understand they will slide off, they don't usually try that again.

Is Your Cat, Food or Toy Motivated?

- ✚ It's important to understand that **some** cats are solely food reward motivated and others are toy motivated, this needs to be your guide as you begin to encourage your cat/s onto the wheel.

Food Motivated Training

- ✚ Food motivated cats can be more difficult to train onto the wheel, but with a little perseverance you will be able to achieve it.

The best starting advice is to use a healthy food reward like cooked chicken or fish chopped up into small pieces. You should spend around 15 minutes encouraging your cat on and off the wheel making sure to constantly reward each entry and exit from the wheel with food.

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When you feel your cat is comfortable with entering and exiting the wheel, you can start to use your food rewards to move your cat forward on the wheel and take steps to reach the food in your hand.

At first your cat will only take a few cautious steps forward, just keep rewarding any steps taken and continue this process as you slowly encourage your cat to be more ambitious.

We recommend repeating this process daily with your cat for around **1 or 2 weeks at least once a day for 15 to 30mins** for positive reinforcement.

Each cat is different but eventually your cat should start to use the wheel on their own.

Should your cat stop using their wheel after training, we recommend repeating the training above as a refresher, some cats just need extra work.

Toy Motivated Training

 High energy toy motivated cats are much easier to train onto the wheel and usually take around 1 week or less to train.

Start by taking the feather toy we have included with your wheel (*or laser pen if your cat prefers*) and have your cat step on and off the wheel for around 5 or 10 minutes.

Continue doing this until your cat is comfortable to sit/stay on the wheel.

Be sure your cat is in the mood to play, if not, stop the training and try again later as each training session should be as positive as possible.

When you are satisfied that your cat feels comfortable on the wheel, you can start moving your cat forward and encourage them to, walk, run and jump at the feather toy on the wheel.

We recommend repeating this process daily with your cat for around **1 week at least once a day for 15 to 30mins** for positive reinforcement.

Each cat is different but eventually your cat should start to use the wheel on their own.

Should your cat stop using their wheel after training, we recommend repeating the training above as a refresher, some cats just need extra work.