

May / June 2021

Living with cattitude

# catster™

Magazine

## 15 Healthy food tips for happier cats

### HOW & WHEN TO INTRODUCE A NEW DIET

*Got kittens?*

- ❖ **SOCIALIZATION TRICKS THAT WORK**
- ❖ **SAVE A LIFE! FOSTER A KITTEN**
- ❖ **NAVIGATE FLEAS WITH EASE**

*Royal & Loyal*



Russian Blue & Toybob

*Time for a change... Yum!*





# LISTEN UP! 10 Ameowzing PODCASTS

BY PHILLIP MLYNAR



Courtesy Arden Moore

Arden Moore, who also happens to be a *Catster* contributor, has been "edu-taining" listeners on her *Oh Behave* podcast since 2007.

**C**at-themed podcasts are thriving. Whether you're looking to learn about rescue and advocacy, hear celebrity guests flaunting their feline credentials or journey inside the adventure cats movement, here are 10 essential cat-casting shows.

## Oh Behave

Launched in 2007, *Oh Behave* is the world's longest continuously running pet podcast, with over 400 episodes in the vault. "The show's focus then and still today is to edu-tain listeners," says host Arden Moore. Guest vets and behaviorists mingle with celebrities, with highlight episodes including a banter-filled session with actress Betty White and a segment starring Garfield creator Jim Davis.

**Visit** ⇒ [petliferadio.com/behave.html](http://petliferadio.com/behave.html)

## The Community Cats Podcast

After leaving the Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society in 2014, Stacy LeBaron launched community cat pro-

grams. When she realized there were over 400 groups on her waiting list, she started a feline advocacy podcast to "inspire folks to turn their passion for cats into action." One of Stacy's favorite episodes covers "the changing way we are thinking about sheltering our cats" with guest Dr. Michael Blackwell.

**Visit** ⇒ [communitycatspodcast.com](http://communitycatspodcast.com)

## Catexplorer Podcast

Broadcast from Australia, the *Catexplorer Podcast* transports listeners inside the daring world of adventure cats. Guides on safely navigating the outdoors with kitty are paired with tips for bringing your cat to brunch. Hosted by self-styled "chief explorers" Hasara and Daniel Lay, the show also offers advice on the best ways to showcase your feline's excursions on social media.

**Visit** ⇒ [catexplorer.co/podcast](http://catexplorer.co/podcast)

## The Purrrcast

Debuting in 2015, *The Purrrcast* is hosted by Sara Iyer and Steven Ray Morris

and specializes in delivering breezy cat chat and comedic kicks. A key recurring segment involves the hosts commenting along to cat-centric episodes of TV shows and movies including *Sabrina The Teenage Witch*, *Futurama* and Disney's *The Aristocats*.

**Visit** ⇒ [exactlyrightmedia.com/the-purrrcast](http://exactlyrightmedia.com/the-purrrcast)

## Cattitude

*Cattitude* was one of Pet Life Radio's inaugural podcasts, launching in 2007. It's hosted by Michelle Fern, who says the show's goal is to "educate, inform and entertain the cat pet parent." Michelle handpicks self-funded rescuer Sassee Walker as her most memorable guest: "She traps in the rougher areas of Brooklyn — she is so dedicated to saving the lives of feral cats in her community."

**Visit** ⇒ [petliferadio.com/cat.html](http://petliferadio.com/cat.html)

## Nine Lives With Dr. Kat

Dr. Kathryn Primm's show debuted in 2017 with the aim of empowering listeners with advice they can "implement at home to make their cats happy and healthy." The podcast also invited *National Geographic* author Erika Engelhaupt to address the pressing issue





of whether your cat might be tempted to eat you if you passed away.

**Visit** ⇒ [petliferadio.com/ninelives.html](http://petliferadio.com/ninelives.html)

## Pet World

Veteran cat behavior specialist Steve Dale's *Pet World* digs deep into a range of feline issues and relays expert advice on medical and scientific dilemmas. Keeping the show topical, a recent run of episodes explored the possibility of a successful COVID-19 vaccine for cats. **Visit** ⇒ [wgnradio.com/steve-dales-pet-world](http://wgnradio.com/steve-dales-pet-world)

## Let's Get Fur-Real

After successfully launching *CatCon*, Susan Michals noticed there was "a void in how cats and dogs reflect our lives and our culture." So she started her own podcast with an expansive feline scope. "It's not about training, it's about the effect [pets] have on every facet of the way we live now," Susan says. "We've covered everything from the comfort of animals during times of crisis to cat poetry!"

**Visit** ⇒ [letsgetfurreal.com](http://letsgetfurreal.com)

## The Pet Show

You might associate Dennis Quaid with his roles in classic '80s flicks, but these days the actor has expanded his portfolio



Michelle Fern (left) is behind *Cattitude*, one of *Pet Life Radio's* inaugural podcasts; James Jacobson (above) is the founder of the *Dog Podcast Network*.

to include co-hosting *The Pet Show* with Jimmy Jellinek. Focusing on pet culture, the show has amassed a roster of celebrity guests like reality-show regular Tyler Henry, Outkast rapper Big Boi and activist Carole Baskin from the cult *Tiger King* documentary.

**Visit** ⇒ [audioup.com/shows/thepetshow](http://audioup.com/shows/thepetshow)

## 19 Cats and Counting

Along with carrying out her duties as a cat mom to 19 rescues, cat behaviorist Rita Reimers hosts a podcast that pries into the ups and downs of cat parenting. A standout episode features actress Mayim Bialik. "Hearing how passionate she is about cats and causes related to cat care really warmed my heart," Rita

says. "Mayim is a real asset for the betterment of life for our felines."

**Visit** ⇒ [petliferadio.com/19catsandcounting.html](http://petliferadio.com/19catsandcounting.html) 🐟



Tell us about your favorite cat-themed podcast at [catstermag@belvoir.com](mailto:catstermag@belvoir.com)



**Phillip Mlynar** spends his days writing about cats, hip-hop and food, often while being pestered by his rescue, a mackerel tabby named

Mimosa. His work appears in *Vice*, *Pitchfork*, *Red Bull*, *Bandcamp*, *VinePair* and *Catster*. He's won various awards at the Cat Writers' Association Communication Contests.

## PRO TIPS TO START YOUR OWN PET PODCAST



Looking to begin cat-casting? James Jacobson, the founder of the Dog Podcast Network, reveals five insider secrets ...



**Record in the closet:** Sound quality really matters. A trick a lot of professional voice-over people use is to record in a clothes closet — the fabric absorbs the sound!

**Keep it focused:** My opinion is an episode should not be a moment longer than it needs to be. Our episodes of *Dog Edition* are 20 to 30 minutes long.

**Get feedback from friends:** Ask a friend to record a video of them lis-

tening to the podcast so you're able to see their eyes and they can pause it to comment.

**Let the cats in!** If you're talking to a pet audience, they will very much understand a dog bark or a cat walking over the mic. That's part of the intimacy of the medium.

**Stick to a schedule:** Weekly episodes are optimal but don't go longer than every other week.