

I've had over 6 months with the wonderful Gillian and Josephine in my home, so I thought you all might want to know how they're doing. The answer is wonderful! They're really coming along: in fact, it's no longer my home, it's their home! The hallways are part racetrack and soccer field (they're so fast when they run by me they almost take me down), and they've spread out their toys to every room:).

I was so sad when I first got them and they made no noise (I really wanted to hear the sound of sweet meows), but now the place is full of their little noises: they meow when I'm too slow in opening the cat food can, call for each other from room to room, and knock their balls around with abandon. They've made so much progress so quickly! Initially, Josephine wouldn't get out of her carrier and had even shoved the little cat condo that you sent home with her in the front of it so she was wedged into the back of the carrier with only the light from the grill covering the top coming in over her. She would stare straight ahead like she was in a trance if I tried to engage her with treats or a toy or just to say "hi, pretty girl"—she was cat-atonic. Gillian did get out of her carrier, but spent the first few days hiding under the couch in the guest room that I kept them in for the first week. I spent a lot of time face down on my carpet petting her under the couch and trying to reassure her that everything was going to be fine.

Within a week or so Gillian was really getting out and about: her sister soon followed. I always dedicate specific playtime to them before and after work and that really seems to have helped us to bond. They love all toys from laser pointers (Gillian's fav) to caterpillar crawlers (Miss Josie loves those). In a few weeks, Gilly began sleeping on top of me at night and Josie settled in sleeping by my bed. I hope to get both of them up there eventually. Gilly almost always sits on my lap on the couch at night and now Josie has joined her, snuggling up next to me. Josie has really blossomed and turned out to be a love bug. She loves lots of petting and chin scratching--she is even starting to like being brushed. The only thing we really don't have down is getting into the carrier to go to the vet. Neither one really likes being picked up (though I have done it), but I think we will eventually get there. They make progress every day.

I would strongly urge anyone considering cat adoption to please look at the "What About Me?" cats first. That was the first place I went to look and I found Gilly and Josie right away. The cats know when you love them and they can make tremendous strides no matter what they've been through. I've had a cat before and these sweet girls aren't any different—they just needed a chance. Josie hissed at me pretty much our entire first visit (I went on a Saturday and I think I was there for an hour and a half going back and forth between Gilly and Josie). Finally, she let me touch her trembling little forehead. It was clear that all the little angel needed was some love. Sure enough, she is the sweetest thing now—and it's even more rewarding knowing how far she's come.

Thank you so much to everyone at King Steet Cats (with a special hat-tip to Vivien and Alan) for taking care of these (and all the other) wonderful cats! They have added so much to my life and I feel so lucky to have them!!

Best—Gilly and Josie's Mom, Angela