



Cat Mewsings

Aggressive Waking of Human 101

For the mild of character and elder feline brethren, you may find such acts as gentle, persistent paw tapping upon a bulbous forehead, or soft, endearing mewing serve you well to wake your human for morning feedings. I commend you for attaining results with procedures that are within your physical abilities and innate nature.

However, for sprightly young kittens and other fervid Felidae souls, a more dynamic approach is relished, sometimes required – particularly for those humans who are more formidable hibernators. Following these enjoyable and affective actions will quickly deliver prompt feedings at *your* desired hour.

Phase 1. The Drive-By – Silently enter the room, then with the quickness of a...cat, spring onto the bed. But do not stop. As you make contact with the mattress – or more triumphantly, your human's leg or abdomen – dash across the bed in one or two heavy, bounding leaps. You want your steps recognized. Stealth is not your goal. Add lilting trills and melodic meows during the act for accentuation.

Repeat as necessary until you feel you must employ Phase 2. Or feel free to conduct a continuous cycle of all three phases for your own amusement.

Phase 2. Claw-Wall Symphony – Often, this step will be the last that you need. Reminiscent of human fingers down a chalkboard, the sound of your claws scaling down a bedroom wall will cut through the most robust snores and profound R.E.M. sleep.

As stated above, simply scratch your claws down a chosen wall in the bedroom. The beauty of this maneuver is that you typically have several walls to choose from. For devilish amusement, dash to nearby rooms and hallways, “playing” upon random walls for an orchestral effect – always returning to the bedroom for a crescendo.

Phase 3. Tarzan Cat – This phase requires that your humans have adorned the chamber windows with drapery. Should you be void of drapes, see alternative direction below.*

This scheme is more about activating the human’s want of mitigating damage to what are often costly trimmings. Except in the most extreme deep-sleeper cases, *Phase 2* should have at least stirred your human from slumber. But it may have not been enough to rouse him or her from the comfort of blankets.

If the bedroom layout allows, commence by perpetrating a long run before your leap – for maximum height achievement. Vault your lithe frame up the drapery and clasp your claws into the fabric. Done correctly, you will enjoy an exuberating swaying motion – as if Tarzan swinging dexterously from a jungle vine.

* Should the bedroom be sans drapery, hopefully there are instead, blinds. Many variables however come into play:

1. What distance is the window from the floor or other accessible launch site? Blinds typically do not hang below sill level. If the window is too high to make the jump, you may have to improvise your own *Phase 3*.

2. What style of blind has been used?

1. “*Rental*” blinds – banal, white and frequently found in domiciles for rent or in homes of unimaginative tastes actually create the best effect. They stir quite the clatter when assaulted. And your human may be very concerned about damage if, in fact, you’re residing in a rental property.

2. *Vertical blinds* – even more visually offensive than the standard horizontal breed, these too, are denizens of rental properties. And though they allow for zero claw adherence, they do make quite the auditory ruckus. And their singularly attached appendages easily disengage with moderate agitation – a noted frustration to most humans.

3. *Soft “honeycomb” blinds* – these also expedite a human reaction, for they tear efficiently. They also take well to well-groomed claws.

4. *Wooden slat blinds* - these pose a challenge. They do not accept even the sharpest of claws like the aforementioned coverings. And often their noise potential leaves much to be desired. However, with some focused attention, a well-practiced feline with the most targeted paw placement between the slats, may attain the ability to gain a “swing” from these agenda barricades.

In Closing

Surveys have shown these techniques – singularly or collectively – elicit a 92% success rate. It's been reported that the 8% failure is due in part to humans who were: 1) severely hung over, 2) suffering from severe illness, 3) elderly – most likely with auditory challenges, or 3) deceased.

This last mention does beg a somber warning: If you have employed any or all for these tactics for more than a continuous 60 minutes, do check your human's pulse and breathing.

However, I'm certain these practices shall grant you the early-morning feedings you so desire and deserve.

Happy Waking,

Benjamin H. Lee Zuko