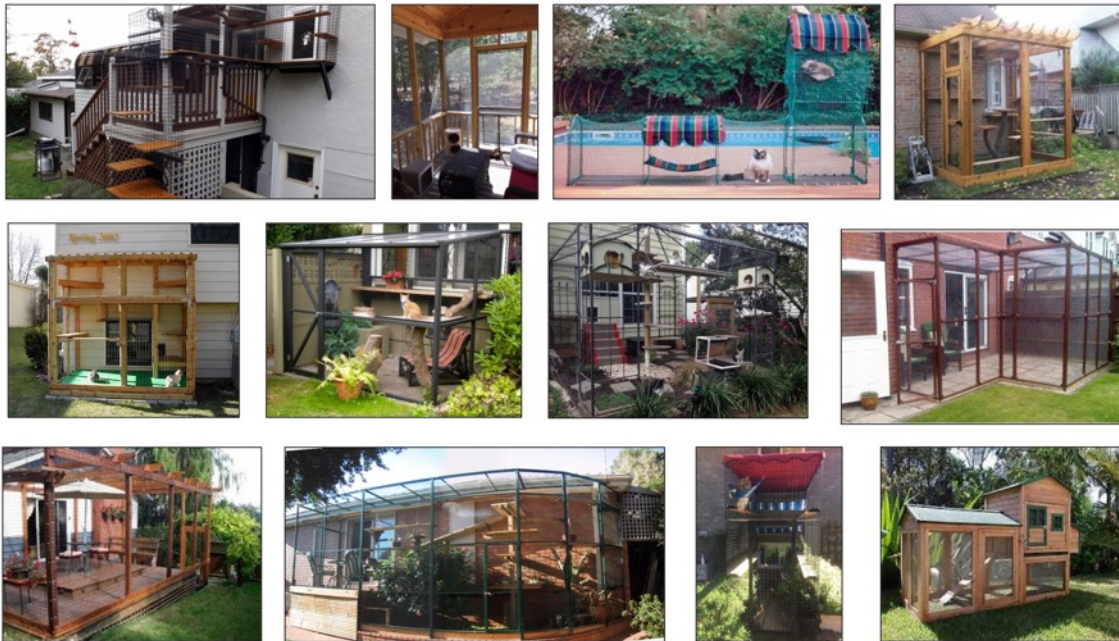




Catios & Cat Enclosures

www.catsandbirds.ca



If your cat isn't into harness life but you want them to enjoy the great outdoors, you can create a protected outdoor space. Kitty tents, cat enclosures and 'catios' can offer the best of both worlds: your cat gets to go outside, but in a safe environment.

There are lots of options, all with the common goal of keeping a cat safe while allowing them access to the outdoors. We don't recommend any particular style or brand, but we hope to make it easier for you to keep your cat safe.

Cat-only catios or enclosures can be small and inexpensive to build, fitting in an otherwise unused space. Or cats and people can share a space created by screening in an existing porch or building a new addition to your home. There are pre-made kits, designs for sale, totally DIY options, or you can hire a contractor. How you provide access for your cat also varies – a window or door, a cat door, a wall cut, directly through a tunnel, or you can carry your cat to a free-standing structure.

Additional enrichment possibilities include ramps, cat trees, cat-safe plants, rocks, climbing apparatus, driftwood, scratching posts, fountains and perches. A litter box is optional, but if you intend to leave your cat in the catio for any length of time, be sure to provide water.

To help you narrow down the options, here are some key considerations:

How handy are you?

You can design and build your own, use a DIY design, buy a prefabricated structure, or hire a contractor.

Budget?

Options range from \$100 for a simple kitty tent or window box to \$250-500 for a simple catio and \$1000-\$2,500 (and up!) for a fancier one.

How much space do you have and how long will you live there?

If you live in an apartment or rent, we recommend you consider one of the portable solutions, such as cat tents, outdoor cat houses, a pre-fabricated chicken coop, or one of the 'inventive adaptations' outlined below, all of which can be moved if need be. If you only have a very limited space available, consider a window box.

Do you want to share the space with your cat?

If you want a shared outdoor space, a screened in porch or large-scale catio is ideal.

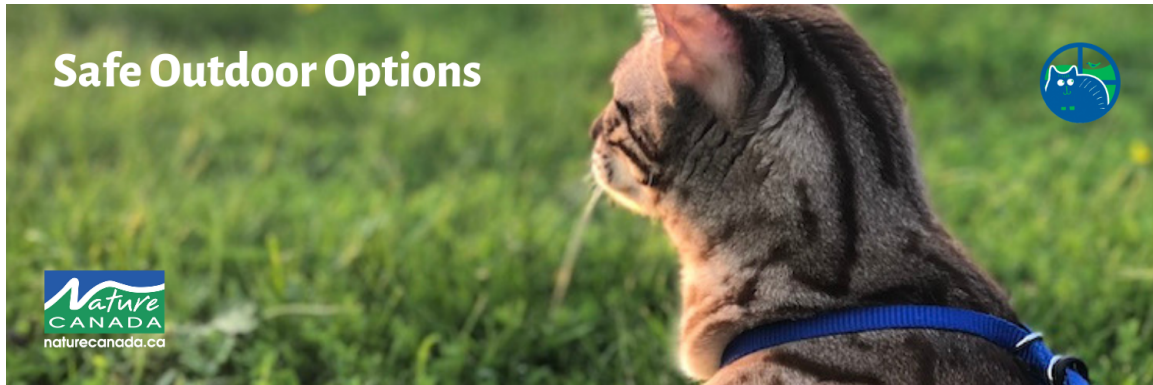
For inspiration, we highly recommend a visit to our friends at Cats Safe at Home in Portland, Oregon. They are the inventors of the "Catio Tour," an annual event. Check out their website at <http://catssafeathome.org>

And there are lots of videos on YouTube, with a huge variety of budgets, designs and approaches. [Check them out here](#).

[Habitat Haven](#) (Toronto, Ontario), [Catscape](#) (Brentwood Bay, B.C.) and [Hellas Pet Enclosures](#) (Edmonton) offer a variety of solutions, from 'catios' to dens to larger enclosures.

Cat fences are also an option to keep your cats safely in your yard. While they won't entirely prevent birds and wildlife entering your yard, they will reduce it, as well as the size of your cat's territory.

To read more about leash-training, cat tents, pre-fabricated options, inventive adaptations, window boxes and full-blown catios, get our [Safe Outdoor Options Ebook](#).



USEFUL LINKS

Canadian Catio Builders

<http://www.habitathaven.com/>
<https://hellaspetenclosures.ca/>
<http://www.catscapes.ca>

Catio Kits & Elements (doors, towers, tunnels, etc)

<http://www.habitathaven.com/>

Tents & Enclosures

<http://www.kittywalksystems.com/>
<http://www.kritterkommunity.com/>

Cat Fencing

<http://oscillotamerica.com>
<http://www.purrfectfence.com/>
<http://catfencein.com/>
<http://deerfencecanada.com/Cat-Fencing/>

Plans for sale

<https://catiospaces.com/catios-cat-enclosures/diy-plans/>
<http://www.just4cats.com/index.html>

Plans for free

<http://myoutdoorplans.com/animals/free-catio-plans/>

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