

TRIXIE



Anleitung Fantasy Board

(GB) Instructions
Fantasy Board

(F) Instructions
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Fantasy Board

GB General Advice

1. Always play this game together with your cat.
2. Select a good starting time: start the game when your cat is awake and in a playful mood. Do not start just after she has eaten. Alternatively, you could feed her while playing, by replacing the treats with the normal dry food. This prevents overfeeding and makes mealtimes more exciting and interesting.
3. Set the game up in a place where your cat feels relaxed and undisturbed.
4. Sit next to your cat and observe her subtly and calmly. Try to avoid staring, as this can make your cat feel restrained.
5. To motivate your cat at the start, use treats which are especially tasty for her.
6. Help your cat at the beginning to master the task to keep her motivated. It is important that your cat – especially early on – is successful quickly, so that she connects the game with a positive experience.
7. Although cats are naturally playful, some have almost forgotten how to play. These cats need to be taught gently and patiently how to play.
8. Some cats are excellent observers and imitators and can learn very well by watching.

Important:

Cats react very differently to new toys. Many are highly motivated to play right from the beginning with the "Cat Activity" toy range. Others need a little time to get used to the toys. They will ignore the toys at first, only later to become completely enthusiastic about playing with them. There are also cats that enjoy concentrating for a long time on a game, while others prefer to play in smaller doses, but more frequently. Whichever way your cat decides, allow her time to deal with the game in her own way.

Attention: Cats under the age of 3 month or with a weight less than 1.5 kg should use the *Fantasy Board* under supervision only.

We wish you and your cat lots of fun and success.

The game can begin

Place the *Fantasy Board* in a sheltered location. Let your cat watch you dispensing cat treats generously in the different modules to arouse the cat's interest. One of the feeding times is ideal for playing with the *Fantasy Board* the first time.

1 Digging module:

Option 1: Hide a few treats or toys, fresh blades of grass or feathers between the table tennis balls. Your cat can dig wholeheartedly using head and paws to find her 'prey'.

Option 2: Fill the empty digging module with water about 5 cm high. (Cats prefer lukewarm water.) Place a floating toy such as a plastic ball or a plastic cap in the water (a further option: with a treat on it) and let the cat fish for it.

2 Cascading module:

Fill the indentation in the middle of this module either with treats or toys or both. Using her paws, the cat will pull her 'prey' up the side. Due to the shape of the module, treats or toys will fall into the lower cascades. This produces interesting sounds as well as visual stimuli for the cat to continue fishing for treats or falling toys. It is quite difficult to actually catch hold of the treats or toys in the cascades as they easily slip away in the horseshoe-shaped channels without lateral barriers. Cats use the versatile flexibility of their paws for this. Claws can be used here as well as in the digging module.

3 Throwing module:

Throw a special treat into one of the bowls of this module while the cat is watching you. The treat will fall out if the bowl is tilted and held. If the cat lets go of the bowl, the treat is catapulted out. At first cats will have to learn to observe the flight path and figure out how to catch it. Help your cat with this at the beginning. Activate the throwing module when your cat is watching and allow her to hunt for the treat after it has been catapulted out. Reduce the amount of help you give slowly until your cat has learnt to use the throwing module. Once your cat

has found out how the technique of tilting the bowls works, you can also use small toys such as toy mice or balls. A lot of cats learn to catch the flying 'prey'. This trains speed, precision and use of the whole body.

4 Tongue module:

This module is not suitable for toys. In the tongue module you can offer your cat pasty or liquid treats or simply water. Cats can best reach these treats with their tongues, as the narrow indentation makes it difficult to achieve results with their paws. Cats can train the flexibility of their tongues here. This module is interesting for blind cats or those with severe disabilities as well.

Tip:

Should your cat not like any treats or toys you might make the *Fantasy Board* interesting with the help of e. g. blades of cat grass. Make a knot into it and cut off the overlying grass. Dispense several fresh grass knots on the *Fantasy Board*.

For further information please have a look at the website www.katzenfummelbrett.ch.