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## The Wisdom of Cats and Workplace Insights

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By

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In recent years, an increasing number of people have taken cats as pets. While their adorable appearance is one reason, many more appreciate cats' unique personalities and intelligence. Indeed, feline behaviour and traits offer considerable inspiration for how we behave in the workplace.

Recently, I once again took in a friend's cat for foster care. When she first arrived last year, she frequently hid, wary of both the new environment and us. We could only give her more space and patiently observe her reactions. Upon returning this year, she remained somewhat fearful, retreating under the sofa or into corners to survey the surroundings while maintaining a distance from us. After several days, she gradually relaxed, venturing out more willingly and even gently rubbing against our hands and feet, displaying trust and affection. This transformation gave me a profound appreciation for a cat's adaptability and observational skills. She remembered her previous experience, understood we would not do any harm to her, and thus integrated into the new environment more swiftly this time.

The intelligence of cats has long been scientifically validated. Their brains contain over two hundred million neurons, with a structural similarity to humans reaching ninety per cent. Cats not only possess memory and learning capabilities but also excel at observing human behaviour, even mimicking it.

This observational and adaptive capacity in cats bears a striking resemblance to the situation faced by young people entering the workplace for the first time. Arriving at a new company inevitably brings feelings of unfamiliarity and unease. Some choose to actively showcase themselves, while others prefer to observe and adapt to their surroundings first. The cat's behaviour reminds us that adaptation does not mean losing oneself, but rather knowing how to adjust one's pace according to the environment, gradually building trust and relationships. Once we understand the dynamics between colleagues and superiors and become familiar with the company culture, work naturally becomes much smoother.

Furthermore, the cat's autonomy is equally worthy of emulation. They do not blindly seek approval nor lose themselves to changing circumstances. In the workplace, young professionals who maintain autonomy and confidence, dare to voice opinions while remaining courteous and measured, often earn greater respect. However, excessive independence or disregard for others' feelings may sometimes be perceived as uncooperative. Thus, the ideal approach is to observe, express oneself appropriately, and remain authentic.

Finally, cats know how to enjoy life. They choose the most comfortable spots to rest, actively seek attention when hungry, and withdraw when unhappy. Amidst workplace pressures, knowing when to relax and care for oneself is equally vital. Through their wisdom and observation, cats teach us how to thrive in new environments while preserving our individuality.



How much of a “cat personality” do you think you possess? Next time you encounter difficulties, why not try observing and adapting from a feline perspective? Here is potential to arrive at surprising and remarkable results.