



# Cat Castles: 20 Cardboard Habitats You Can Build Yourself

*Carin Oliver*

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## **Cat Castles: 20 Cardboard Habitats You Can Build Yourself** Carin Oliver

A shoebox or paper bag may be fine for those other cats. But doesn't your favorite feline deserve an in-home hangout that matches his exalted status and high standards? One that also shows off your own design sense and crafting skills?

This DIY construction guide offers fun and easy instructions for making cardboard purr-a-mids and regal cat castles, along with many more "pawesome" homemade habitats. Build your cat an igloo, a treehouse, a train, a boat, or a car. All the projects are quick to assemble, use inexpensive and common materials, and can be customized however you—or your cat— would like. Don't wait, get your copy right meow!

## **Cat Castles: 20 Cardboard Habitats You Can Build Yourself Details**

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# From Reader Review Cat Castles: 20 Cardboard Habitats You Can Build Yourself for online ebook

**karen says**

poor sad maggie...

why isn't she living the glamorous cardboard box/rock-and-roll lifestyle that these spoiled cats are enjoying??

JUST ADD MORE BOXES, INDEED!

i mean, obviously this is a wildly impractical book; even if you have the space to accommodate TWENTY different cat homes, are you gonna fill that space with TWENTY different cat homes? ten, i can see, but twenty is gonna get you labeled a crazy cat lady, regardless of your gender identity.

but sometimes crazy cat ladies like me buy books like this the way normal people buy glossy interior design books - just to flip through and fantasize about the day our ship will come in and we can finally commit ourselves to the crazy cat lady lifestyle and all it entails.

these are the twenty houses you can build if your ship has already come in:

maggie will have to content herself with her current box-options:

box that used to be full of pears and is now full of my dad's shredded mail:

cardboard divan for those regal days:

open-faced box for hiding from chemo-bearing humans:

narrow box for rowboat pirate adventures:

(which, after spending wayyy too long going through my many pictures of maggie (because crazy cat lady), i find i have never gotten a photo of her stuffed into. regardless, it exists, and is situated next to cardboard divan.)

EDIT - FOUND ONE!

those are the permanent boxes that she can hang out in when she's not in one of the fancier, non-cardboard cat beds, but have also been many temporary boxes perfect for her opportunistic plopping, especially during the holiday season:

but none of them as fancy as the ones in this book.

someday, maggie, someday....

and now that i found the narrow-box picture, i might as well add some more pictures to this review, even though they're all kind of the same, but she's too pretty not to photograph, and what else am i gonna do with all these maggie pictures?

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### **Becca says**

We made the yellow submarine!! The instructions didn't work out perfectly for us, which led to some frustration (neither the suggested hot glue, nor duct tape, held our cardboard together - we ended up tying edges together with twine. And I bought a hot glue gun just for this!!)... but we still ended up with something really adorable.

For anyone gathering ideas for cat playhouses, this book is AMAZING! And the cat models in the book are too cute.

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### **Mayda says**

Even if you aren't compelled to break out the cardboard and a few tools to create some of these abodes, this collection of cat habitats is quite entertaining in its own right. Some of the castles are more complex than others, but there are a few that even the carpentry-challenged could recreate. And the cardboard scratchers look intriguingly simple to construct. Yes, your cat may be happy with a simple box, but think how impressed your friends will be when you show off your handiwork. And you won't have to hide your cat's bed when you have company over.

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### **LEVI says**

Really interesting and crafty ideas. I took a handful from here to try with my cat, but she's so picky the ones I really want to do wouldn't interest her at all. I have access to plenty of boxes, but I'll have to figure something out about the glue gun. There's some useful tips about cutting and bending/folding cardboard boxes at the front of this book. Hoping they'll work as good as advertised.

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### **Rachel says**

This is a great little book about building cat houses from cardboard. It covers everything from regular cat towers and scratchers to rockets and pirate ships, and even an actual castle for your kitties. Everything looks fairly easy to build and really sturdy. The only thing I question is how well they'd hold up to my nearly 20-pound cat, particularly those with multiple levels. Overall I really feel like they would hold up well and last a reasonable amount of time compared to the time they take to build. That being said I probably won't be making on anytime soon, mostly because I feel like my dog would try to eat the box and wreck everything... He really is why the poor cats can't have nice things...but he seems to be at least starting to grow out that phase.

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### **Trish says**

This has some neat ideas for cat condos.

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### **Christa Van says**

This is an absolutely ridiculous book that encourages you to decorate cardboard projects for your cat to sit, lay, sleep, play in. No cat has a need for anything this fancy and I deem this a great book for someone who has too much time on their hands. Now excuse me while I start on my first project. P.S. Also contains fabulous photos of projects in use.

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### **Samantha says**

This is such a cute book, this gives ideas and instructions on how to make places for your cat, such as castles, planes etc.

It has beautiful illustrations and the book is just a bit of fun. Perfect for any cat lover and child who needs entertaining over the holidays.

I would recommend this book to cat lovers.

I would like to thank the publisher for sending this in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Shanna Hurd says**

Looks like fun, but I didn't make any. I think my cats would crush anything I made out of card board. :) Still a lot of fun to look through this book

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### **Holly says**

How can you go wrong with building pirate ships and lunch trucks and scratching posts for your kitties? Easy to follow directions and instructions on where to get the supplies if you don't have cardboard boxes or large cardboard tubes lying around. Love it! Plan to make the simplest habitat in the book for our cats. The cat hq is literally just a taped cardboard box with a cool shape cut out of the front of it. Even I can do that one!

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### **Lauren Read says**

Really inventive and inspiring -- yet easy -- projects for your feline family's enjoyment.

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### **Shelli says**

Everybody loves a good fort!

Clever ideas abound in this slim-ish book, but let's be honest: many of the structures within are going to be more pleasing to humans than to their cats; they're just not fort-like enough to provide the kind of hiding places that kitties really like.

But there are a few treasures, and anyone who knows their cat(s) well will easily be able to modify some of the designs to make them more appealing to their feline companions.

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## **Sheri says**

Every king/queen needs a castle, and now you can make your own customized royal palace for your beloved feline friend. And if your cat eschews manners and pomp and all the other trappings of the aristocratic class, never fear for there are many other projects and certainly one will suit your cat. Perhaps a pirate ship, or maybe a rocket? The locomotive looks fun. Whatever you choose, it's sure to be hours of fun and frustration for you. Your cat will briefly investigate and then curl up and nap on the pile of cardboard scraps leftover from your design genius. Still worth it in the end? Of course!

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## **Mehsi says**

Ik heb zelf geen kat (allergisch), maar dan nog kon ik dit boek niet laten liggen. Het zag er gewoon te leuk en te schattig uit. De projecten wisselen in moeilijkheidsgraad. Sommige zijn vrij simpel, en sommige net ietsje moeilijker. Ik was niet een fan van elk project, ik vond die geometrische dingen wel interessant, maar ik zou ze nooit maken als ik een kat had. Ik zou liever een raket of een de yellow submarine maken. :P Blij dat we ook achter de namen van de katten komen aan het einde. Ik dacht al, die schrijfster heeft wel erg veel katten anders. ;) Zeker een aanrader! Pas op het is echt heel schattig!

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## **Geoff Battle says**

Luckily I work in a business which recycles cardboard, so this was a breeze for me to source the required materials to make this cat castles (and other cardboard designed hideouts). With many DIY craft books I get stranded, requiring some odd piece of paraphernalia which disenfranchises me with the project. It's nearly all cardboard in these cat homes and the small additions are wire or twine and can mostly be left out, although it can be the detail which brings some of these projects to life.

The suggested equipment includes a steel ruler, craft knives, tape etc., all easy to source or already owned. if you are gifting this book, perhaps include a couple of those products too ensure it doesn't get dusty on a shelf. In fairness, you could make do with normal everyday house items, however the likelihood of mistakes and poorer quality finished products are certainly more likely.

The actual designs are very straightforward and there's no guarantee your moggy will do any more than sniff if and stroll off. My cat doesn't have a favourite blanket or any way to entice her in to her first castle (which is a castle, unpainted or decorated until she does more than sniff it). Cats are fickle at best, so I'll let her decide when to move in.

There is a good variety of things to make, some quite straightforward and quick to make. The images are very easy to follow and instructions are short and simple. There's an going nature that is apparent throughout the book, with plenty of photos of the projects being tested out by our feline friends. Some of the desgins are more detailed and a little more intricate, practice will be required. Although I let my children help, cutting thick corrugated cardboard needs care and power, I did the cutting and they helped with the rest.

An interesting option for any cat owner who wants to mix up craft and petcare.

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