

CHARL-E- ZINE



PLUS:

Advice from Miss Nahlah

Coping with Vanishing Furniture

And

Zoom Meeting Etiquette

**WORK AT
HOME ISSUE**

**Rules for Competitive
Feather Wanding**

**Supervision in the Age
of Home Offices**

**Re-scenting After
Furniture Refinishing**

Tricks to Get Treats

Rules for Competitive Feather Wanding

1. Be sure to warm up properly. Regular roll-over practice is also a good idea.
2. Use all of your best acrobatic moves to intimidate your opponent.
3. If your opponent is a girl, ignore #2 because they don't get intimidated.
4. If you ignore #3, at least try not to land too close to your opponent's head. They won't like it and may swear at you.*
5. Once you capture the feathers, hang on tight if they try to get away.
6. Holding the feathers under your paw is permitted briefly, to make your point but you have to let go after 60 seconds so your opponent can have another turn.
7. When your feather wand has moulted down to two feathers, use it for practice, but get a new one for proper matches. Otherwise, you will both look shabby.

**Note that swearing at the feather wand is permitted but swearing at your competition is considered un-sportscat-like.*



Supervision in the Age of Home Offices

Having your human(s) at home all day, everyday can wreak havoc with your routine. It may interrupt your nap and house-patrol schedules. You may even find that some of your favourite spots have been commandeered as desk space.

This is a time when we must exercise our superior powers of reason and manage the situation and our humans kindly but firmly. Set a consistent schedule to check up on your humans to make sure they are, in fact working, and not playing Minesweeper. If they are unresponsive to a laser glare through the back of the head at first, find a spot to the side but within their peripheral vision so that they know they are being watched. Over time, you may be able to train them to be more aware of your presence without going so far out of your way.

Break times are important. Again, set a consistent schedule and be clear as to your expectations. I like to have a feather wand practice everyday between 2:30 and 3:00 pm, for example. If the weather is good, instruct them to go out for a walk or such at lunch time to give you a break.

Video conferences can be a contentious matter. Be strategic about which ones you join as most are not even remotely interesting. See if you can find out which meetings include cat-sensitive people as these will tend to focus on you. Also, check to be sure the video camera is on, so you don't waste your time with people who can't see how cute you are anyway.

This is a challenging time. Take heart, eventually they will go back to the office at least some of the time. Until then, be kind, be firm and remember that you are in charge for a reason.

ADVICE FROM MISS NAHLAH

Coping with Vanishing Furniture

Dear Miss Nahlah,

Lately, my furniture has been disappearing. It has not been moved because I have looked all over the house and it is not here. Ignoring it has not brought it back. What should I do?

Perchless

Dear Perchless,

First, I must point out a tiny flaw in your logic. To ignore something is to pretend that it isn't there. You don't pretend that something that isn't there, isn't there because it's already not. It is also unwise to pretend that something that isn't there isn't not there because when you try to jump on it, well, let's not go there. I recommend that you pretend you don't care that it isn't there and find other places to perch. Then when your furniture comes back, it will be sorry.

Zoom Meeting Etiquette

Dear Miss Nahlah,

Is there a correct way to leave a Zoom meeting? I don't want to be rude, but they do get boring and sometimes overlap with my nap times.

Sorry, Gotta Go

Dear Sorry, Gotta Go,

The best way to leave a Zoom Meeting or any other online meeting is just to leave. Some people think it's rude to turn your tail to the camera on your way out, but I think that if you have a nice tail, you should show it off. Those who take offense are just suffering from **Tail-Envy**. If the meeting is a human "work" meeting, there is a good chance it will be boring. I suggest settling down for a snooze in your human's lap, if possible. If that is not comfortable, go ahead and leave but try not to yawn at the camera before you go. It will make other people yawn which may cause the meeting organizer some stress.



Re-scenting After Furniture Refinishing

If you have had furniture refinished, it will need to be re-scented. Do your usual thing. It will take several layers because newly finished furniture smells quite a bit. Be patient and spread the work over at least a week or two so you don't over-do. Remember, you can always add more later!

If the furniture has been re-upholstered, take the time to be sad about all of the improvements you made to the old upholstery that now are lost. Be careful not to restart your work too soon. Live with it for a while to determine where it is most lacking so that you can prioritize properly. This also gives your human a little while to get over it being new so she or he will be more open to the upgrades you make later.



New Tricks to Get Treats

Trick #23

Sit politely looking over the counter just a little anxiously as if waiting for someone to take your order. Think **C-U-T-E** really, really hard.

CHARL-E-ZINE

Publisher/Editor in Chief

Charlie

Contributing Editor

Charlie

Guest Columnist

Nahlah

Layout/Photography

Charlie's Mom

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Vermin in Your Yard: The Squirrel Issue

Avoiding Injury During Roll-Over Practice

Ideas for Passing the Time When You Get Trapped in the Garage

Plus Regular Features:

Tricks for Getting Treats

Advice From Miss Nahlah