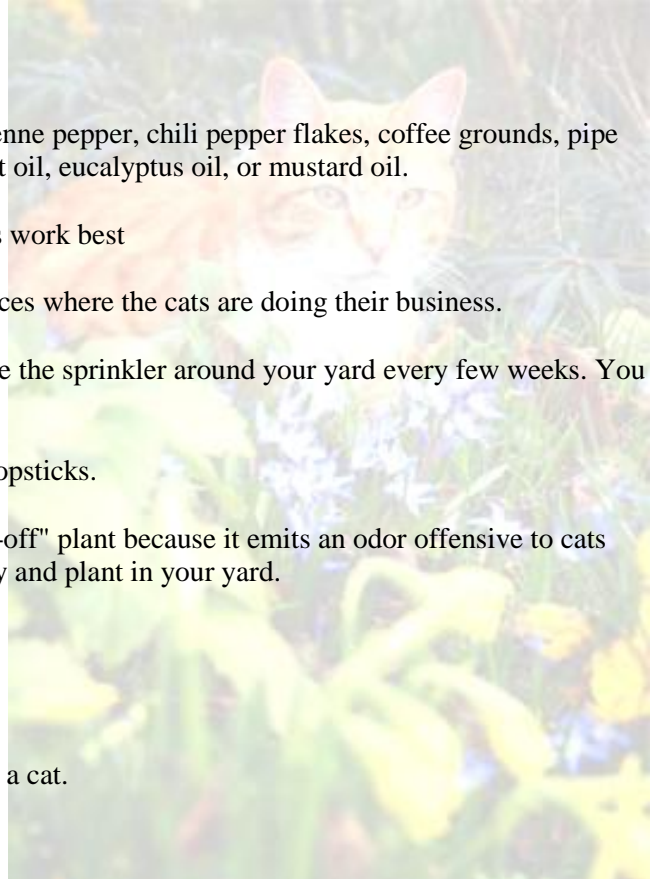


## How to Keep Stray Cats Out of Your Yard

*Did the neighborhood stray cats pick your yard for their favorite bathroom? Most local laws allow cats to roam free, and it is a crime to harm them. Here are many suggestions that you can try. What works for one cat, might not work for another so be prepared to try more than one solution. Good luck!*

### Instructions

1. Scatter orange and lemon peels (cats dislike citrus smells), cayenne pepper, chili pepper flakes, coffee grounds, pipe tobacco, lavender oil, lemon grass oil, citronella oil, peppermint oil, eucalyptus oil, or mustard oil.
2. Scatter pinecones in the areas. Ponderosa or other prickly cones work best
3. Buy a commercial cat repellent and scatter or spray it in the places where the cats are doing their business.
4. Install a motion sensor sprinkler that will startle them, and move the sprinkler around your yard every few weeks. You can even get one that looks like a scarecrow.
5. Place plastic forks into the ground with the tongs up. Or use chopsticks.
6. The Coleus-Canina plant is known as the "Scardy-Cat" or "Pee-off" plant because it emits an odor offensive to cats but not to humans and deters their presence. Buy from a nursery and plant in your yard.
7. Put down chicken wire - cats hate walking on it.
8. Plant green onions every five feet around your garden.
9. Put a Scat Cat in your yard. It has reflective eyes that will scare a cat.



### Tips & Warnings

- Get a dog!
- Commercial cat repellent, pepper or chili flakes need to be reapplied every few days - especially after a rainstorm.
- If the cats belong to your neighbors, talk to them and try to work things out amicably. Encourage them to keep litter boxes in their houses and yards for the cats to use.
- If you know of someone in the area that is feeding the stray cats you may want to ask them to stop, explaining that the stray cats are causing problems for all of the neighbors.

### Vinegar as a cat repellent

White vinegar can be used either full-strength or diluted with water to repel cats. If objects or plants could be damaged by applying vinegar full-strength, dilute it with one or two parts water before using it as a deterrent. Experiment with different strengths to find the mixture with the least amount of vinegar that is still effective on the cats you wish to repel.

Spraying Outdoors – Straight or diluted vinegar can be sprayed around the edges of a garden, and on plants, fences, posts and garden décor to keep cats away. Concentrate the spray on areas that the cats frequent or that you particularly want to protect. Vinegar can be sprayed safely around the base of acid-loving plants, but should be tested for safety before being sprayed directly on leaves. Some plants will not be affected by vinegar; others might turn brown. Also, test an inconspicuous spot for fading or damage before spraying vinegar on painted surfaces or garden décor. Spray every few days or as often as needed to repel cats. Areas likely will need to be sprayed again after rain or watering.

Spraying Indoors - Vinegar can be sprayed inside the home to keep an indoor cat away from certain areas or surfaces. Use the least concentrated mixture that is effective and limit spraying to specific areas. Spot test the vinegar spray on fabrics before applying to be sure that the vinegar does not bleach or stain couches, carpet, drapes or other upholstery. Test on wood and other surfaces first, too. Spray the area thoroughly and repeat once a week or as often as needed to repel the cat. Indoor areas will need to be sprayed less frequently than outdoor areas.