ARE CANDLES REALLY POISONOUS TO CATS?

CANDLES   **AROMA**   **SAFETY**   **FACTS**

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As a general rule, cats are more sensitive to fragrances than most other animals. A cat processes some chemical substances differently and is more susceptible to the effects of some fragrance materials. Under normal circumstances, when a candle is used as intended, cats do not have any problems. Problems occur when there is a known allergy, direct contact with the candle's wax on the skin or if it is ingested.

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The short answer is, it depends on the type of candles being burned. Candles that are made from paraffin wax, use a lead wick, or release synthetic oil and fragrances, can be toxic. For example, fragrances and/or oil can aggravate existing respiratory illnesses like asthma in your pets due to harmful toxins, such as naphthalene (an aromatic compound) or phthalates (group of chemicals). When it comes to paraffin candles or mass-produced candles, paraffin candles aren't healthy for any of you or your cat.

The Inhaling of scented candles can cause your cat/pet to sneeze or cough, and can even trigger an asthma attack if they're sensitive to the ingredients. Paraffin wax is made from petroleum as a by-product of making gasoline. The American Lung Association warns against burning paraffin candles. Studies by air quality engineers and testing by the EPA have confirmed that burning these types of candles can emit toxins and dangerous chemicals in measurable quantities into the air which may be toxic for your cat.
If you have a cat with a history of respiratory disease or that seems sensitive to fragrances, keep fragranced candles away.

Soy candles made with natural fragrance oils are not deemed poisonous to cats.
Opt for organic wax candles, such as candles that are made from a vegetable wax, or coconut wax. Not only are these candles better for you and your pet, they're better for the environment!