# The Bad Ferret List

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#### --- Introduction ---

This is a list of things rabbit ownees would have their pets write on the blackboard, like Bart Simpson, if they could get them to write. This list was begun February 18, 1997 and is copyrighted by Harold Reynolds (the creator and maintainer), though animal shelters may use it for fundraising purposes. Latest update: July 19, 2012.

#### --- [xxx] is not a bed: ---

My human's clean or dirty clothes hampers; the kid's shoe, my litterbox.

#### --- I will not climb the [xxx]: ---

Curtains; dress/suit my human has hanging to dry; the stranger my human is talking to in the street.

#### --- [xxx] is not a ferret food: ---

Rubber bands; foam, \*anything\*.

#### --- I will not steal the [xxx] to stash in my hidey-hole: ---

Shoes; keys; socks; eyeglasses; cordless phones; insoles out of shoes; my human's Platinum Master Card and her American Express Card.

#### --- I will not try to climb into the [xxx]: ---

Refrigerator; dryer; dishwasher; couch, bed, bathroom drawers, inside the cabinets.

#### --- Annoying/Embarrassing Habits ---

- 1. "NoNo" is actually a word. I do understand what it means, and I will not play dumb when it is said.
- 2. Biting and clawing frantically on the door of my cage will not get me out; it will, however, get me wet from my human's squirt bottle.
- 3. Dragging my female human's used sanitary pads out of the bin into the lounge when guests are visiting (or any other time) is a no-no. But it does turn her face a lovely shade of red.
- 4. Ferrets do not need to shower their humans with kisses after they made sure that the other ferrets are not imposters by smelling their butts.
- 5. Ferrets do not wear make-up. I do not need to investigate my human's make-up bag.
- 6. I am not a local dump truck. Some humans do actually USE the stuff in their house.
- 7. I am not Jacques Cousteau. The 125 gallon reef aquarium is not my personal scuba diving spot.
- 8. I do not have to check out every new thing that comes into the house.
- 9. I do not need to know what is behind the litter box or my food dish.
- **10.** I have enough toys, I do not need to find new ones that aren't toys.
- 11. I must not go walkabout while my human is at work, so that her parents have to go looking for me.
- 12. I must not practice my mountaineering techniques by scaling the dog's water bucket. Nor is the dog's water bucket is not the place to practice for my attempt to be the first ferret to swim the English Channel.
- 13. I must not throw a temper tantrum because my human won't let me play in her sewing box. (It is filled with all sorts of interesting things like cotton reels, rotary cutters, scissors, pins etc.)
- 14. I shall not think of being sprayed with the Bad Ferret Squirt Bottle as a challenge and ferociously attack said bottle and the human wielding it.
- **15.** I shouldn't lie in wait and dash for the front door as it's closing.
- 16. I shouldn't root through guests' purses/coats they don't understand me.
- **17.** I will cease trying to pull the bottom five CD's out of the CD tower.

- **18.** I will never again find the hole in the floor at grandma's house that eventually leads to the outside world. I will not go out for a dig in the dirt, only to sneak back in through the hole as if nothing has ever happened. (The red dirt of east Texas will always give me away.)
- **19.** I will no longer climb to the top of the bookcase and wait for my human to walk by so I can pounce on her. This scares her and she might miss catching me, and it also makes her turn funny shades of red and talk about Sun River Bridges.
- **20.** I will no longer have ambitions for being a hamster, hiding stuff is completely useless since I get a bowl of food everyday, which I by the way also hide in my personal city dump.
- 21. I will not attack rubber-soled shoes while my human or my human's guest is wearing them.
- 22. I will not attempt to chew the crotch of my human's jeans while she is wearing them.
- **23.** I will not attempt to evade my human by bounding through the grass in the paddock, making her lunge at me several times. Exploring rabbit burrows is enough excitement for one day.
- 24. I will not be like walking a water balloon when on a leash.
- **25.** I will not bite in hopes of getting a raisin.
- 26. I will not claim possession by rubbing my crotch on all my humans' shoes, video game controllers, plates, beanie-babies, movies, DVDs, remote controls, toys that are my brothers', or anything else I can straddle.
- 27. I will not climb into my human's recliner in order to nest and play in the impossible-to-reach area under the cushion.
- **28.** I will not climb into the cupboards and then up to the top drawer to fall asleep on the straws causing my humans to search for me for three hours.
- **29.** I will not climb into the subwoofer hole in my human's expensive stereo speakers, and I will not remove the sock that she stuffs in the hole when I am out of my cage.
- **30.** I will not climb the baby gate and go exploring in the fish room. It scares all the fish and chewing on the air tubes is NOT a good idea.
- **31.** I will not climb the curtains.
- **32.** I will not climb the kitty-condo in order to get to the printer.
- **33.** I will not climb the outside of my cage and then leap through the air to land on the futon. I might miss and hit the floor instead and hurt myself.
- 34. I will not climb the upstairs porch to the rail and jump to the roof to explore the gutter system. It makes my human panic.
- **35.** I will not climb through the top of the bedroom closet where a small hole to the ceiling is, and give my human a fright as she tries to figure out how to get me out of the ceiling. I will not play in said ceiling and return (at my leisure), covered in dirt, to show my human how much fun I had. I will not then return to said ceiling playground the next day in spite of my human's best efforts to block the way in and again return happy and covered in dirt.
- **36.** I will not completely flatten myself so I can crawl underneath the bedroom door of the sleeping guest who is not fond of ferrets just so I can crawl into bed with her and lick her toes.
- **37.** I will not dig into my male human's porn magazines. I am not old enough to be allowed to view such material (I had just gotten home and let the ferret out and had a bag with two in there. I learned well: Bags attract ferrets.)
- 38. I will not display all of my humans' most personal articles of clothing to every guest we have.
- **39.** I will not do my war dance and give cheek while my human is reprimanding me.
- 40. I will not drink out of my humans' friends glasses. They don't like to share as much as my humans do
- **41.** I will not escape from my car cage while my humans are driving. Having to stop the car and dig me out of the suitcases is not their idea of fun.
- **42.** I will not escape outside in the freezing snow on New Years Eve and play hide and seek under the deck while the human is trying to catch me. (I was wearing my best outfit at the time, and slippers.)
- **43.** I will not get my human's PJ bottoms while she is asleep and have a party in her pants.
- 44. I will not go into the furnace ducts that are on the floor. They are dirty and it scares the humans.
- **45.** I will not have a tantrum when my human makes me quit climbing the furniture.
- **46.** I will not hide in the insulation layer of the stove so my humans have to take it apart to get me out.(My little girl ferret Korki loves this trick.)
- **47.** I will not hide under any appliances that are too heavy to move.
- **48.** I will not hide/fall asleep where my humans cannot find me.
- **49.** I will not hiss at, spit at or bite the judge. I will not bring home any ribbons that way.
- **50.** I will not investigate the ENTIRE basket of laundry, bother my human until she finally knocks it over for me, and then promptly forget about it.
- 51. I will not knock over anything that is on a table just so I can watch it hit the floor.
- 52. I will not lie in wait beside the front door whenever I hear the doorbell ring. And I'll definitely stop organizing all the others to make a rush with me, so at least one of us can get out.
- 53. I will not lift up the gate with my front feet while on my back in order to escape into the "forbidden zone".
- 54. I will not perform amazing acrobatics on the chain that follows the chandelier extension chord to the plug-in.
- **55.** I will not play Houdini when my human has me on a leash.
- 56. I will not play tug of war with the phone cord when my human is talking on the phone.
- 57. I will not pretend to care about the chips in the bag just so my human will let me pounce on the bag to hear it go crunch.
- 58. I will not put a death-grip on my human's mother's slipper soles requiring two people to pry me off of them. Hanging from your

teeth is for experienced acrobats in the circus only.

- **59.** I will not scale up anything available in order to get a better look at what's out there.
- 60. I will not scream at the baby and hang from his diaper because he won't let me have his bottle.
- **61.** I will not sleep in the dog food bag and spring out when my human goes to feed the dog.
- **62.** I will not sneak into the bathroom and drag the plastic wrapped feminine protection into the living room when the humans have guests over. They do not think its funny. (My mom's ferret Sugar did that and never got into the bathroom again).
- 63. I will not sneak into the kitchen cupboards and play in the dishes/grocery bags/garbage can.
- 64. I will not sneak outdoors. I'm a ferret and need supervision lest my curiosity get me in trouble. I may not be able to find my way home.
- **65.** I will not stalk and then attack my human's bare ankles whilst she is ironing causing her to stop what she's doing, leaving the iron face down, so she can try to catch me. Scorch marks are not attractive on her work clothes.
- 66. I will not stalk and then attack my human's bare ankles whilst she is ironing lest I startle her into dropping the hot iron on her feet--or me!
- 67. I will not stay down in the rabbit burrow, after scaring the bunny out, for so long that the humans start to think of getting a shovel to dig me out. Particularly when the sun is going down.
- **68.** I will not step on my human's feet to get attention, then run over to the potty and pretend to be doing my business in anticipation of getting the Ferrettone reward.
- 69. I will not try to climb into the bookcase behind the books and set my humans on a ferret hunt that drives them to distraction.
- **70.** I will not try to escape from my harness and scare my human half to death by running over to the next door neighbors and touring the underneath of their tool shed while human is calling my name frantically.
- 71. I will not try to figure out ways to get onto the coffee table so I can get into all the things I'm not supposed to.
- 72. I will not try to run out the door when the delivery man is at the door trying to deliver packages and then go and sulk, hiding where my humans don't know where I am therefore, throwing them into a panic thinking I am lost.
- 73. I will not try to run under the shelves in Petsmart. I will also not hump the cat trees.
- 74. I will respect my human's ferret proofing techniques and try not to create more things to hide from my presence.
- **75.** I will stop trying to dig through the bottom of my cage. It makes it really staticky and hard to clean when my mom tries to sweep the kitty litter and it comes right back to the same spot
- **76.** I will try not to chew on the velcro on the human's leg brace when she's wearing it. I will wait until she takes it off. (My aunt is unable to sleep in her leg brace now, because the fuzzies wait until she's asleep and try to remove it for her...)
- 77. If I am allowed to ride in the hood of a coat, it is not so that I may have a front row seat for licking and or suckling on the ears of the coat's owner.
- **78.** If I am being carried in a coat during sub-arctic temperatures, it does not mean I may evict the arm that also is using the coat for warmth.
- **79.** If my human tosses me at the cats in an effort to get me to annoy them instead of her, I will do as she wishes instead of returning to bite her toes.
- 80. It is my human's bed, not mine. I will stop biting her when she tries to climb into it.
- **81.** It is not a good idea to escape from my human's apartment, sneak into a different human's apartment, scare off their dog, and use the dog's pillow as a resting spot. This causes a large reward to be posted for me, and some very confused and upset humans all around. Plus, the dog isn't exactly thrilled by the idea either.
- 82. My human's use of the Bad Ferret Squirt Bottle is supposed to annoy me, not be considered as a new and exciting game.
- **83.** My male human can move anything out from the wall to retrieve my fuzzy little butt. I will remember this the next time I go behind the dishwasher.
- 84. NO-NO does not mean "go-go".
- **85.** The cave behind the refrigerator, the inside lining of couches where humans can't reach and the space inside the wall (through the tiny opening under a cabinet only visible to trained ferret escape artists), while terribly fun places to hold a pajama party with all my other ferret friends are not ferret sleeping and/or partying and/or pooping places.
- **86.** Though I can run and dodge like Barry Sanders, my human doesn't need proof when he's trying to catch me in the hallway after a break out.
- 87. We do not need to investigate the bag of poopies when our human is cleaning our litter boxes.
- **88.** We will not escape the cage, hide under the couch, and grab our human's hubby's leg. (My husband thought we had rats in the house, and nearly brained them with a large book!)
- **89.** We will not go outside without permission and supervision and give our human a heart attack while she runs around madly shaking a box of raisins.
- **90.** When my humans have gone to such diligent pains to block cracks of doors with blankets, towels, heavy objects, moats, or fencing material it is inconsiderate to insult their efforts by removing these barriers and escaping into the big playland in five seconds, resulting in my human removing the entire contents of the aforementioned playland leading to a two-hour search and six-hour cleaning project while I escape undetected through my frantic human's legs and take a nap in my cage looking ever so angelic. In the future I will play dumb and take at least five minutes to remove the barrier.
- **91.** When punished I should not respond by war dancing and dooking.

### --- Bathroom Misbehaviour ---

- 1. A bath will not hurt me. I can learn to like it. I can, I can, I can.
- **2.** Baths are good... baths are good... baths are good.
- **3.** Ferrets do not need to come running every time the male human has to pee, they do not need to jump up on the toilet to see where the pee is going, they do not need to get in the way of pee.
- 4. Ferrets do not need to investigate where the water in the toilet goes when it is flushed. Humans may not always be there to fish me out!
- 5. I am not going to drown in the tub, so I need to relax and let the worries of my day soak away instead of flailing wildly and scratching my human's hands up.
- 6. I will never again climb up the bathroom shelves and jump onto my human's back as she leans over the sink to wash her face.
- 7. I will not attempt to escape the bath by climbing up my human's sleeves.
- 8. I will not bite and nip at my human when she is washing her face, has soap in her eyes, cannot see or stop me and then 'pout' in the hallway when she shuts me out of the bathroom. F:Zfrom: Amber Gumm
- 9. I will not chew the little metal weights out of the bottom of the shower curtain to play with.
- 10. I will not climb into my human's dropped pants/shorts/undies while s/he's sitting on the throne.
- 11. I will not climb up the bare arm of the human to get out of the bath and hang on and shred said arm while the human tries to unlatch me.
- 12. I will not die of thirst if I don't get to drink water directly from the bathtub tap. The water in my bowl is fresh and clean.
- 13. I will not dive into the toilet bowl to see what's in there. My human says its full of germs.
- 14. I will not follow my human into the bathroom and bite her backside when she sits down.
- **15.** I will not follow my humans into the bathroom, wait until they are "occupied," and climb into their bunched up pants to curl up and get comfortable. The bunched up pants on the floor are not a new sleeping spot.
- **16.** I will not follow my humans into the bathroom, wait until they are "occupied," and poop in a corner while they are helpless to stop me.
- 17. I will not hang off the bottom of my human's towel when she is trying to dry herself after a shower. This is even less fun when she has a broken foot and is trying to keep her balance because she is in plaster.
- **18.** I will not hide in the shower until an unsuspecting male visitor needs to use the toilet and jump out at him to his arms while he is using it. The visitor and my human do not like cleaning up the floor and the walls from a missed stream.
- **19.** I will not hide the towel while my human is taking a shower.
- **20.** I will not immediately jump into the empty bathtub, then look at my sucker human pitifully so that she will retrieve me every two minutes, even though I am fully capable of jumping out myself if I really wanted to.
- 21. I will not jump in the tub and do laps and use my human as a resting spot when I get tire while she is enjoying her bath.
- 22. I will not mysteriously appear in the bathtub with no visible way to have arrived in said bathtub.
- 23. I will not pounce on my human's toes through the shower curtain, especially when she has a head full of shampoo suds.
- 24. I will not snatch onto the end of the toilet paper and dash gleefully in and out of every room in the house, and upon NOT getting caught turn the trail into TINY SHREDS. (Apparently this is not the human's idea of decorating for the holidays.)
- 25. I will not take a flying leap from the counter on to my human's lap when she is sitting on the throne, even in the day light, when she is awake.
- 26. I will not tear a hole in the brand new package of toilet paper, crawl inside and shred it to bits, then proceed to spread it all over the bathroom.
- 27. I will refrain from applying my icy cold wet nose to the naked thighs of the human sitting on the toilet.
- 28. I will save my high-jump, hurdle, pole-vaulting, and curtain-climbing abilities for the Olympics and not bath time.
- **29.** I will stop lying in wait when I hear my human draining the bathtub, even though dripping ankles are fun to lick.
- **30.** If my head is above the water, I won't drown.
- **31.** Remembering that I hate water, I will not sprint to the shower as soon as someone opens the restroom door, getting soaked in the process.
- **32.** The bathroom is not a mystical playground.
- **33.** Throwing myself against the walls of the bathtub will not break it. It is also very difficult to dig a tunnel through the side of a bathtub.
- 34. We shall not run into the bathroom and lick the water off our human's legs after she showers.
- **35.** We will not frantically claw and jump at the tub in an attempt to rescue our male human while he is taking a shower. This causes our female human to remove us from the room, so that we must lie in front of the door and stare at the crack until he emerges, unharmed and tasting of soap. He is quite safe. Strangely, he actually enjoys being wet.
- 36. When my human is sitting on the potty, pants around the ankles do not a hammock make.

#### --- Bodily Functions ---

- 1. I can go back to my litter box to do my business. I can, I can, I can.
- 2. I can wait until my human is finished cleaning my litter box to take a dump.
- **3.** I do not need to run to the top floor of my 5 story cage and pee on everyone below just because I wasn't let out when the door opened.

- 4. I need to avoid leaving poop-surprises in the towel I'm being dried off in. This leads to another immediate bath.
- 5. I need to lose weight. Pee on my fat tummy due to my not being able to lift it off the ground during my after-nap whiz isn't cute, even if I am.
- 6. I shouldn't pretend to potty so dad will let me out of the litter box to play. We both know that I have to go, and there will be other days to poop elsewhere.
- 7. I will do my business in the litter box before coming out to play.
- 8. I will learn not to put my back feet on the edge of the litter box so when I poop it falls outside. (In our house we have come to call this little feat the "projectile poop". Rowdy the 9 month old sable has perfected it. She can lob one of those bad boys about 2 feet out from the cage if she decides to launch it from the second floor. She has managed to compute the proper trajectory to get the little surprise to land just about where I walk to turn the TV on or light a candle or play a CD. Her skills at this are improving daily and it appears she takes great pride in it. After she has completed her lob, she will always turn around and visually measure her accuracy and style. She apparently gives herself points for arc, bounce, distance and direction.)
- 9. I will not back so far into the corner of my litter tray that my back legs (and every thing else) land outside of the tray, especially when my human is glaring at me.
- **10.** I will not back up and do my business on my humans foot just because he is playing computer games and doesn't notice that I need to be played with.
- 11. I will not create 5 new bathrooms every other month just for the heck of it.
- 12. I will not do my business in the corners of the house.
- 13. I will not eat Play-doh and poop blue one day, pink the next, and green after that.
- 14. I will not eat mystery items and subsequently have explosive diarrhea all over the kitchen and then the ER table when my humans take me to the animal hospital.
- **15.** I will not fart out of pleasure when I'm being fed grapes, especially when it's a guest who feeds me.
- 16. I will not give my male human lots of kisses and then sneeze on his face, hand, leg, arm, head, and/or behind. Especially since I never EVER sneeze on my female human, and he thinks that is really gross and unfair.
- 17. I will not invent new poop places every other day.
- **18.** I will not look my human in the eye and poop in the opposite corner of my potty area, especially when she just cleaned out my litter box.
- 19. I will not pee on my human's arm while he is trying to bathe me. It will only prolong the experience.
- 20. I will not pee on my human's bed sheets to get out of clipping my claws.
- 21. I will not poop behind the couches where my human can't reach. I will use the many litter boxes that I already have and use once in a while. I know where they are!
- 22. I will not poop in my bath water.
- 23. I will not poop in the middle of the table during the "cup tip" contest. I get disqualified for doing that.
- 24. I will not poop on the judge next time, even though I just couldn't hold it any longer. I might have gotten better than fourth place.
- 25. I will not poop on the second floor of my cage with the hopes of it landing in the litter box on the first floor.
- 26. I will not pretend that I am litter-trained, only to show my human that I, was only fooling her.
- 27. I will not pretend to do my business because until I do I still do not get out of the cage.
- 28. I will not relieve myself right next to my litterbox as a sign of displeasure toward my human.
- **29.** I will not run into a corner and poop every time the bathtub is turned on. Just because it has been turned on doesn't mean I'm getting a bath.
- **30.** I will not take a dump on my human's comic books.
- **31.** I will not try to blame the cat when I pass gas.
- 32. I will not use my human's roommate's bedroom as my own private litterbox just because I can fit under the door.
- **33.** I will not use the bottom of the CD tower as a litter box.
- **34.** I will not use the hood of my human's hooded sweatshirt as a litter box just to see the expression of horror on her face when she puts it on her head.
- **35.** I will not use the litter box 100% of the time when I am supervised, then do my business next to every litter pan in the room when I am not supervised.
- **36.** I will not wait for the grapefruit smell from the cleaner to disappear, then return to old poop places.
- **37.** I will only poop on the inexpensive computer equipment.
- 38. I will remember that the corner of the waterbed is not the litterbox, nor is the area under the pillow next to the headboard.
- **39.** I will stop putting my butt against the bars so I can crap out onto the carpet from the corner by my 2nd floor hammock because I am too lazy to go downstairs to the bathroom. (We just got a pair of albino ferrets and they love to put their butts against that corner and crap at night, leaving us presents for the morning.)
- **40.** If we \*must\* go potty in the hall, we will leave our human a path.
- 41. Just because the new ferret is still learning how to use a litterbox doesn't mean I get to stop using it.
- **42.** My recent illness is no excuse to conveniently forget how to use a potty box and pleasure poop where ever the urge strikes me. Even if it's in the middle of the living room floor.
- **43.** Not every corner that doesn't smell like I've been there needs to.
- 44. The baby bottle is for the baby, I do not need to run over and pee on my siblings because my human took it away from me.
- 45. When I pass gas I will not lick the carpet where I was sitting when I passed the gas and then try to kiss my human.

**46.** When I'm preparing to poop in a corner, and my human sees me and comes running towards me screaming "NOOO! Bad ferret!" I will not hurry to squat and poop in the corner before she can grab me. When she is running and screaming, it means I'm already in trouble and I should head for the nearest litterbox to avoid getting in MORE trouble.

#### --- Destroying ----

- 1. Although they are round, Christmas tree ornaments are not eggs. I will not try to open them by banging them against the heater. (We sure thought this was cute until the first one broke.)
- 2. An XBox 360 game pad is expensive. Destroying them repeatedly causes my human to wonder if a few hundred dollars worth of ferret is really worth a few hundred dollars of gaming electronics.
- **3.** Every plastic bag does not necessarily have something good to eat in the bottom of it. I do not need to chew a hole in it to find out.
- 4. I will not chew holes in my human's favorite raw silk nightgown just because I thought it would feel good against my teeth. I will not use above said nightgown as a bath towel after I have been bathed, either.
- 5. I will not chew holes in the toes and heels of socks, or in underwear.
- 6. I will not chew my human's high heels.
- 7. I will not chew my human's rubber spatulas.
- 8. I will not chew on my human's only good pair of work shoes.
- 9. I will not chew on my human's wallet, no matter how delicious the leather.
- **10.** I will not chew on the water bed.
- **11.** I will not chew Styrofoam.
- 12. I will not chew the buttons off of my human's cell phone.
- **13.** I will not chew the buttons off the remote control, making them unrecognizable. My human cannot use it anymore and the universal remote she had to buy will not program the VCR, which made her very angry.
- 14. I will not chew the eyeballs and noses off my stuffed animals. I'm scaring the guests.
- 15. I will not chew the handle holes on my human's cardboard bead boxes, then crawl into them and chew holes in every baggy that was separating all the beads by color, shape, size, type, etc.
- **16.** I will not chew the padding off of the stereo speakers.
- 17. I will not chew on the remote control buttons or the video game controllers.
- **18.** I will not chew up the carpet.
- **19.** I will not chew up the rubber buttons on the remote control.
- 20. I will not climb in my human's bathroom drawers and all over her grooming supplies.
- 21. I will not crawl under the dog bed, flip onto my back and frantically shred the foam into tiny pieces.
- 22. I will not dig through the carpet, through the carpet padding, and down to the bare floor because I'm frustrated that I'm no good at climbing.
- 23. I will not eat all the velcro off of my human's motorcycle suit.
- 24. I will not eat holes in my humans first addition signed Edgar Allen Poe's The Bells.
- 25. I will not eat my human's Beanie Babies, even if the retired ones seem to taste especially good.
- **26.** I will not eat my human's printer paper, correspondence he brought home from the office, magazine covers, paperback books, CD booklets, cancelled checks, notebooks, and matchbooks.
- 27. I will not eat my human's very expensive underwear just because I like the feeling of cotton between my teeth.
- **28.** I will not feel compelled to kill any toy that has been near or contains catnip to the point it is no longer recognizable as a toy.
- **29.** I will not insist on burrowing into the underside of the couches, so that my humans have to finally give up and take their legs off so that they rest flat on the floor.
- **30.** I will not jump 4 feet vertically to get into the garbage can, because once I'm inside I can't figure how to get out, and I am shredding all the garbage bags, rendering them useless, in the process. (But it's funny to watch my human pick up the full bag and have it explode all over the clean kitchen floor.)
- **31.** I will not jump on and bite all the balloons (at birthday parties) until they pop just because they are soft and bigger that I am.
- **32.** I will not lie on my back and scratch all of the cloth out from under the living room furniture causing my human to reupholster all of it, and get \*really\* angry at me.
- **33.** I will not mutilate my stuffed toys beyond recognition because I think I need to discipline them. (Bandit, the middle child has a thing about his toys. They are "HIS" and no one is to touch them so he hides them all in his secret place. Sometimes we take them all out of there so that we can watch him frantically put them back one by one and then scold each one for leaving it's designated place. Cruel but funny. If we take the one out of his cage, which is always to be in the right hand corner of their sleep/play area he will go to any length to return it to it's exact spot -- and of course it gets disciplined. I have to sew it back together all the time. It has no neck left)
- **34.** I will not pull the lace doily off of the table, sending large chunks of amethyst and an antique clock to their doom, just because the first time I did it, it worked (he did the trick he yanked the doily off the table and nothing moved! Now I can't get him to stop trying.)
- **35.** I will not reach the closet shelf by climbing up my human's silk chiffon designer dress that she got an incredible deal on and has been gloating over ever since.
- 36. I will not rip holes in my humans nylons, especially when she is wearing the \$15.00 per pair really nice ones.

- 37. I will not rip out half of the underside of my human's couch to create a place to stash everything I steal.
- **38.** I will not rip out hide, chew, and all in all destroy the insoles out of my humans Nikes, Justin boots. Nor will no longer leave any presents like dead mice in them either.
- **39.** I will not rip pieces of foam off of my humans' Ab-Roller.
- 40. I will not roll around in the fireplace before dashing around the house.
- 41. I will not scratch and ruin the mini-human's new carpet just so he can have new carpet that he will like better.
- **42.** I will not shred my human's pillow all over the bed.
- **43.** I will not shred the liners of my humans' snow boots trying to pull them out.
- 44. I will not steal my humans' cigarette packs and poke holes into every single cigarette, rendering them unsmokeable once my humans find them. (Well, maybe that's a hint? -- HR)
- **45.** I will not suddenly decide to shred the glossy covers on my human's much loved and carefully handled hardcover books, even if they are on the bottom shelf. They have been here longer than I have, and I have never before shown any interest in them.
- **46.** It is not nice to drag food (human and ferret) to hidden nooks and crannies until the only way we find it is when the smell is strong enough to locate by scent. Same goes for poop.
- 47. My human does not like to decorate with broken glass. I will not knock over valuables.
- **48.** My obese little brother digs better than me. I have to learn to deal with that and not try to out do him.
- 49. No matter how much I try, I cannot dig a tunnel under the door, so I will stop shredding the carpet trying.
- 50. Piggy banks break when pushed off the table. Though very fun, it is an enjoyment we can only experience once.
- **51.** The computer CDs can not have holes dug into them no matter how hard I try. It only scratches them to unusability and my human doesn't like replacing them all the time.
- **52.** The insides of couches/my human's bed are not ferret beds.
- 53. We shall not scratch at the couch to get in, and when reprimanded give kisses to save our bottoms.

#### --- Food / Water ---

- 1. Although randomly standing up on my hind legs to solicit treats is very cute, my human doesn't buy it. She says I don't need more than 1 sweet per day.
- **2.** Books are not food.
- **3.** Cantaloupe is not a well-balanced food for me.
- 4. Chocolate is a privilege, not a right. (In very very small occasional servings.)
- 5. Even though I like cereal, I should wait until my human gives me some instead of attempting to pull the entire bowl out of her hands. She will give me some.
- **6.** Fish, especially the tropical fish in the aquarium, are not ferret food.
- 7. Fishtank supplies are honestly inedible.
- 8. I am a carnivore. I will eat the chicken my human gives me instead of only eating raisins and clementine oranges.
- **9.** I am a ferret. Ferrets do not need to eat apples. (My male sable was playing in the closet and as my husband comes out of the bedroom he notices him with a huge apple in his mouth taking it back to the cage. When we tried to catch him and get the apple back he started hissing at us and chewing on the apples. The apples had huge holes in them. All apples now have to be kept in sealed containers like the potatoes.)
- **10.** I do not need ice cream to survive. I should stop taking bites of my human's ice cream cones when she's not looking; it could make me sick.
- 11. I do not need to crawl up on shoulders, trying to grab Cheerios as the human tries to eat breakfast.
- 12. I do not need to eat fuzzy mice because my human gets very mad when my poop has fur in it.
- **13.** I do not need to eat something that makes me urinate bright green. It really scares my human.
- 14. I do not need to have spaghetti every day!
- 15. I do not need to hide under the couch to eat my treats my human has never tried to take them back.
- 16. I need to find a vet who'll prescribe "The Patch" and leave Grandpa's cigarettes alone.
- 17. I realize that raisins do not constitute the complete diet of an obligate carnivore. Really, I do. Humans need raisins and cool whip.
- **18.** I will be patient when receiving raisins, my 2 brothers may want some too.
- 19. I will eat the dog's food first because I know she does not like it and prefers cat food anyway.
- 20. I will leave my human's chocolate alone, especially if she's eating it.
- **21.** I will not attempt to eat my human's fingers while being fed treats.
- 22. I will not bring food from my cage to hide under my humans' bed (one of my hidey-holes).
- 23. I will not carry bagels upstairs to hide under the bed.
- 24. I will not climb the plant stand to get to the fruit in the basket on the counter, then proceed to throw every piece on the floor, bruising it, so that my brother can stash it under the bed for us to snack on later. Whole apples and peaches are not good diets for ferrets.
- 25. I will not create a huge "ball" of food between the two sections of the sectional sofa.
- 26. I will not dive into the glass of Pepsi up to my shoulders that my human is drinking.
- 27. I will not drink the salt water out of the fish tank filter when I have 2 completely full water bottles in my cage.
- 28. I will not drink my human's amaretto. It may taste great, but nobody needs a drunk ferret and it makes me really thirsty.
- **29.** I will not drink my human's beer.

- **30.** I will not drink out of the water bucket that is to be poured into the aquarium.
- **31.** I will not drink the cat's milk (by nursing from her). It gives me diarrhea.
- **32.** I will not eat foam ear plugs.
- **33.** I will not eat my human's favorite eraser.
- **34.** I will not eat my human's plants. They will make me sick.
- **35.** I will not eat the dropped peas under the dining room table.
- **36.** I will not eat the goldfish my human buys to feed to his Moray Eel.
- **37.** I will not eat the water balloons that the human kid lost. This causes me to poop in Technicolor, freaking out my adult human. (Misti pooped various colors of water balloons the first two weeks we had her, even after we searched the house after she pooped the first one.)
- **38.** I will not escape, root in my college human's closet and find a month-old hamburger. I will not play tug-of-war with the humans for it. (He found an old cheeseburger in my brother's closet, complete with the dried-out meat. When I tried to remove it, it took one of us holding him, and the other prying open his jaws!)
- **39.** I will not get into the medicine cabinet and see how many cotton balls I can eat.
- **40.** I will not get up on the table and drink water out of the fish tank that is being medicated and cause my human to call all the way to Germany where the product is made just to find out if I'll be all right.
- 41. I will not hoard eighteen Twizzlers (chewy licorice candy sticks) under my human's roommates bed and scare her half to death by collapsing in her lap after eating four in a row causing me to need to go to the vet for emergency surgery.
- 42. I will not knock over my human's open beer or any other beverage and drink it.
- **43.** I will not lie perfectly flat on the floor and look pathetic so my human will give me treats.
- 44. I will not line up a dozen potatoes even though winter is coming and I expect a famine.
- **45.** I will not refuse to go back to eating solid foods, even though it's fun to be fed out of a spoon every few hours.
- **46.** I will not splash half of the cat's water all over the floor.
- **47.** I will not stash pizza crusts in my human's suitcase to be found during a vacation.
- **48.** I will not steal my human's hot chocolate or take a bath in his cereal bowl while he is in the shower.
- **49.** I will not steal raisins out of my brothers mouth just because I'm done with mine and he eats his slow.
- 50. I will not steal the human's Grandma's food that she left to go to the bathroom, making her think she was getting forgetful in her old age and had herself eaten it.
- **51.** I will not steal the toast. The toaster is not an automatic ferret feeder.
- 52. I will not steal the ziplock bag of pork chops out of the refrigerator (this incited a ferret riot and ruined dinner).
- **53.** I will not stop eating just because I'm a little stressed.
- 54. I will not store so much kibble in my human's slipper that it seems as if I am preparing for nuclear holocaust. There will always be plenty of kibble in my bowl.
- 55. I will try not to eat all of the food and turn into blimpo ferret. I'm the youngest and should be the smallest, not the largest.
- 56. I'm not supposed to have beer even if my human gives it to me. (Bad Daddy!)
- 57. Jalapeno peppers are hot and will make me very sick as well as blister my mouth.
- **58.** My head will never fit into the neck of a beer bottle. I should really stop trying.
- **59.** Pop-tarts are tasty, but I do not need the whole box to myself. (I found three unopened packages in his favorite hidey spot, along with two half eaten pop-tarts!)
- **60.** Pounce Treats get hard when we hide them for later must eat on the spot in front of my humans.
- **61.** Soap is not a food substance.
- 62. Soap is not for eating. Nor are bath salts. And aromatherapy oils smell a lot better than they taste.
- 63. The kitten food that the kittens have is the same as mine. When I'm let out, it is so I can play, not to eat all of the kitten's food.
- **64.** The packing material in a box is not ferret food.
- **65.** The rubber around swim goggles is not ferret food.
- **66.** There are ferrets in China (or wherever) that are starving. Just because by the time I get to the bottom of my food bowl the kibble is not as fresh as when I started is no reason to ignore it.
- 67. Watermelon is good but should only be eaten in small amounts and never so much as to produce projectile diarrhea.
- **68.** We will not immediately run off with the ferret treats and hide them under the bed, in the very center, so the human can't reach them. We can't open them ourselves, and so won't get to enjoy them unless the human can open them for us.
- **69.** When I am given a little soda, I will not decide that I can't get enough, drink the soda till I pass out and regain consciousness, only to lick the sealed soda bottle for hours on end.
- 70. When my human brings me the safe packing peanuts made from corn starch home to play in, I will not just sit in the box and try to eat as many as I can. They are for playing in, not a ferret food staple.

# --- Games, Playing, Toys ---

- 1. I must not leap off the bed while my human's back is turned and still expect her to catch me. I will not bite her when she sometimes misses me.
- 2. I will not claw books off the bookshelves-there's nothing behind them worth getting at and there's plenty of other places to play hide-and-seek.
- 3. I will not insist that my human and I play chase every minute that I am out of my cage. This makes my human very tired, and

probably annoys the people in the apartment downstairs.

- 4. I will not play "dead ferret" just to get hugs and kisses from my human once she realizes I'm still alive.
- 5. I will not pop soda bottle tops out of my mouth just so I can chase them all over the house and knock stuff down, because they would not be good to swallow and I could get squashed by falling objects.
- 6. I will not try to play with the feathers inside my human's daughter's brand new Barbie blow up sofa no matter how fun they look.
- 7. The phone cord is not a snake that "needs killin". The Shower Massage is also not a snake that "needs killin" if left in the shower floor.
- 8. The place where I do my business is not an area to play in.
- 9. There are no toys in the garbage can. I do **not** need to constantly check.
- 10. Toe rings are to stay on my human's friend's toe. They are not for rolling around on the floor like soccer balls.
- 11. We will not enter the Ferret Freeway from opposite ends and start wrestling in there. It worries the humans.

#### --- Hampering ----

- 1. I am not a licensed pilot, therefore I have no reason for screeching into the mike at the top of my lungs causing the tower to think my human is being hijacked or killed.
- 2. I am not a pilot and shall not try and help my human do a ground check on the airplane (I might get lost).
- 3. I cannot read, so I will not stick my entire head into the book my human is reading.
- 4. I do not have a driver's license and cannot see over the steering wheel, therefore I do not need to help my human drive in heavy traffic when I escape my carrier.
- 5. I do not have to peek out the window at the ground crew fueling my human's airplane it scares them.
- 6. I do not need to get inside the scanner.
- 7. I do not need to steal my human's paperwork or book when she is working on it.
- 8. I must not wait until my human is using the treadle sewing machine, then climb up inside the leg of her jeans and bite her.
- 9. I shouldn't get into my (female) human's drawer and pull out all her sexy nighties and underwear, then hide them. Especially on the day the exterminator comes to spray.
- **10.** I will be good and still when we are riding in the car so my human will hold me up to look out the window. When we stop, however, I will not jump out and chase the dogs!
- **11.** I will not "help" my human type.
- 12. I will not add my interpretive scratches on my human's sculpture. I am not a sculptress.
- 13. I will not attack the mop while it is being used, nor will I try to take it to my hidey-hole even though it won't fit.
- 14. I will not attack the net with a dead fish, steal it, and hide it God knows where until it's found by smell.
- 15. I will not attack the vacuum cleaner when my human's using it. It would not feel good to get caught in it.
- 16. I will not bite the human's toes while he is doing pull ups; he may just fall on me.
- 17. I will not chase the broom while my human's sweeping all I do is track dust/dirt where she has already swept.
- **18.** I will not dive in and out of duffel bags like a diving fish. It's fun for me, and looks funny to bystanders, but could hurt me if I misjudge/get caught in something.
- **19.** I will not drag my human's shoes under the bed, knowing he is already 10 minutes late for work and then hide when it's time for me to go to my room.
- 20. I will not get into my human's boots and pants while he is trying to put them on.
- 21. I will not help out the ferret sitter by unpacking all the duffel bags she just refilled. She may pack me into a duffel bag or refuse to ferret sit again, instead of just laughing and moving it all out of my reach.
- 22. I will not hide just ONE of my human's favorite shoes just hours before she really needs them.
- **23.** I will not lick the human's armpits while he is attempting to do sit ups, although he does giggle funny. (My hubby has taken to working out at the gym because the fuzzies TORMENT him when he works out at home.)
- 24. I will not provoke my human's father into trying to run me over with the remote controlled car.
- **25.** I will not pull on the phone cord, dragging the phone off the cradle, and then hide the phone under the bed. (Makes it really hard to get any phone calls!)
- 26. I will not pull the plug out of the bathtub and let the water out so I won't have to get washed.
- 27. I will not remove the innersole from my human's shoes every time I get near them.
- 28. I will not sprint for the door of the entertainment center when my human opens it. I sometimes get my head stuck in empty VCR tape boxes. (But at least I look cute doing it.)
- 29. I will not stage a stampede with my brothers and sisters when my human attempts to open the door to an off-bounds area.
- 30. I will not step on the phone receiver while my human is talking on the phone.
- **31.** I will not tear up my human's papers, eat her books, bounce around on everything, or steal her pen while she is trying to do her homework.
- **32.** I will not try to scale my human's leg to get to the feather duster while she's dusting.
- **33.** I will not unplug the cable box when my owners are watching the best part of their favorite show and then hide where they can't reach me so I can do it again.
- 34. I will not walk across the keyboard while my human is typing, no matter how much I like to hear it "sing".
- 35. I will not walk on my human's hands while he is using the computer.
- **36.** I will stop hiding all the returnables under the bed.

- **37.** Jumping on the computer desk and knocking off all the disks and papers that my human has worked all night on for work the next morning is not a good game.
- **38.** Not all of the presents under the tree belong to me, I do not need to open them all, nor do I need to hide many of them so that it is two months later when they are found.
- **39.** The bathroom cabinet will never be organized. I should stop trying to do this for my humans.
- **40.** We will not use our "weasel radar" every time our human opens the dishwasher or the clothes dryer, and run to jump in. Regardless of what we might think, we are really not helping.
- 41. While I think it may be fun to sneak into my human's briefcase and go to work with him, he does not.

### --- High-Tech ---

- **1.** I cannot ride on top of the remote control car.
- 2. I do not need the mouse pad or the wrist rest for myself. My human doesn't like having to play tug with me to get it back, only to have to buy another one because I tore it up so well.
- 3. I do not need to pounce and chase the light on the table top scanner when it is doing its thing.
- 4. I will never again eat the rubber wheel off of the computer mouse. (We've gone through four at this point.)
- 5. I will never again steal my human's pager and force her to call it just to figure out where I put it, even if it does make interesting beeping noises when I chew on the buttons.
- 6. I will not chew/pull on cable/electric cords.
- 7. I will not go nuts and attack my human when she hits the 'pager' button on the cordless phone just because the beeping is annoying to me.
- 8. I will not grab the cord to the mouse and run when my human is monitoring a chat.
- 9. I will not jump out from behind my human's monitor and throw my "toss balls" at her when she holding a cup of coffee, even though she finally got a "spill proof" keyboard.
- **10.** I will not knock the phone off the hook and then step on the one-touch dial button for 911. (I saw the phone off the hook and hung it up. They called back asking if every one was okay. I was a bit embarrassed to tell them what had happened, but she seemed to understand. At least no police showed up.)
- 11. I will not sleep inside my human's subwoofer and then freak out when he turns on his stereo.
- 12. I will not steal the remote control, even if I do want to watch something different from what the humans have chosen.
- 13. I will not steal the rubber tires from the remote control cars. I have my own to play with.
- 14. I will not try to run off with the computer mouse. It may be chewy, but it is still connected to the computer.
- **15.** I will not use the speed dial feature on the phone to call my human's friends. They do not recognize me by my scratching and sniffing.
- 16. I will not walk across a keyboard and close out a desktop application while it is running.
- 17. I will not walk on the computer keyboard, or if I do, at least I'll try not to hit the keys that delete important files.
- **18.** It is impossible for me to steal the mouse. I will try to remember this, because my humans are never amused when they see me dangling from the edge of the computer desk.
- **19.** My human likes the caller ID box on the end table by the phone. It does not have to be on the floor, despite my compulsion saying otherwise.
- **20.** The camera is not a toy and does not need to be stored behind the couch.
- **21.** The mouse on her desk is not a real mouse and does not need to be killed.
- 22. The remote control car is a fun toy, but I should not try not to bite the tires while they are moving.
- **23.** There is nothing fun inside the printer.
- 24. When my human is monitoring a chat I do not need to walk over the keys. If I lie right I can hit Ctrl Alt and Delete at the same time and this makes her talk about the Sun River Bridges again.

#### --- Human-Related ---

- 1. Although my human is a pilot I will realize that my attempts to show him that I can fly are total failures. I will no longer launch myself at him from the bed as he may not be able to catch me in the landing zone (his hands).
- 2. As a ferret entitled to explore all small places, I will make the most of open jeans and pant legs. This amuses the human's visitors. I will not, however, burrow headfirst down their shirts as it makes them squeal and they shriek if I use my nails to prevent being dragged out.
- 3. Chomp and run on the human's ankles is not a good game.
- 4. For some reason, pants, especially pajama or sweat pants (which make the very best tunnels) are off limits. This applies double for pants belonging to guests, and triple for guests who dislike ferrets.
- 5. I can resist the temptation to bite my human's boyfriend's nose (even if it is kind of large).
- 6. I do no need to crawl all over guests, from their heads to their toes, as they sit on the couch.
- 7. I do not have to bite uncovered human toes; they are not tasty and the humans get upset.
- 8. I do not need to liberate my owner's feet from the pernicious prison of socks by biting the toes.
- 9. I must not bail-up visitors at the side gate while I am playing Houdini. This also includes chasing the cat and the dog while I am out.

- 10. I must not play mountain goat and climb up my human's back while she is ironing.
- 11. I will kick my humans but the next time he gives me and my brother a USED dryer hose to play in and we sniff up all the lint and sneeze for 20 minutes. (I had to give the ferrets a good one, they're not the only ones who screw up.)
- 12. I will never, ever again, attack the minister's foot when he came to see the Grandmother. He could have stepped on me and hurt me.
- **13.** I will not attack my human's bare legs just because he yelled at one of my brothers.
- 14. I will not attack my human's toes while my sister is successfully clawing up her back to see what is under her shirt, just to see which end of her body she can get to first.
- 15. I will not attack the meter reader when he has to look under my favorite hidey space to read the meter. This scares him and then he won't be back and my human has to read it instead and send it in.
- **16.** I will not attempt to lick to inside of my human's nose. It is gross.
- **17.** I will not bite ankles. No one likes that.
- **18.** I will not bite my human just because I do not get my way.
- **19.** I will not bite my human when giving her kisses.
- 20. I will not bite my human when she reaches under the bed to "borrow" a pair of "my" socks.
- **21.** I will not bite my human's feet while she is walking.
- 22. I will not bite my human's legs even thought they taste good.
- 23. I will not bite my human's psychiatrist's testicles.
- 24. I will not bite my human's toes just because s/he is playing with my siblings at the moment.
- 25. I will not bite my male human's nipples. He's not the one who used to nurse me.
- 26. I will not bite the backs of the knees of sleeping humans, even if it is the best part.
- 27. I will not bite the hand that feeds me. Or the toes, or the butt, or any exposed bit of flesh.
- 28. I will not bite the inside of my human's elbow, even if the skin there is nice and soft and warm.
- **29.** I will not bite the mini-human when he is watching cartoons, causing him to cry. Instead I will wait until the adults are out of room and don't see me do it.
- **30.** I will not chase guests in the house even if they have a proven track record of running and screaming.
- 31. I will not chase my human around the shower nipping at his heels just because he squeals funny.
- **32.** I will not chase my humans all over the house.
- 33. I will not climb my humans because no ferret should be six feet off the floor hanging on a tee shirt.
- 34. I will not climb on my human's computer desk, and knock the zip drive, mouse, mouse pad and keyboard off onto the floor.
- 35. I will not climb up my human's back and use her as a diving board when she is in the tub.
- **36.** I will not climb up my human's boss's dress and upon her screaming and standing up bite her calf, run under the chair and then come back out to bite her again. This is not a good first impression. (My boss is deathly afraid of her now and she has to stay in her cage when she comes over.)
- **37.** I will not climb up my human's leg and bite the contents of his underwear. It is painful for the human, and I may be seriously injured.
- **38.** I will not climb up my human's pant leg and decide to bite him.
- **39.** I will not climb up the Grandmas extra support hose when she come to visit and give her a heart attack.
- **40.** I will not come out of nowhere to investigate my male human's butt whenever he sits on the bed or on the floor. I do not need to appear out of thin air just to poke my head into the back of his pants, and he thinks it's very weird.
- 41. I will not crawl into the sleeping bags of sleep-over guests so that I can lick their toes.
- **42.** I will not crawl through the cable outlet junction box into the neighbor's apartment to explore. This terrifies the neighbor and she asks my Mom to come get the unknown animal from her house. (She is from Romania and has never seen a ferret. I had just commented to them that they had not made the list because they were such good ferrets, when I got a knock at the door...)
- **43.** I will not curl up and fall dead asleep on my male human's chest, only to wake up suddenly and violently with an itchy fit. He sometimes has chest pains, and this does not help. Plus, my claws hurt him.
- 44. I will not dance around and get cheeky at my human when he tells me off.
- **45.** I will not escape from my leash in the car while my human's father is driving in order to bite his toes and potentially cause an accident.
- **46.** I will not escape through the dryer vent to play with the local children whose sitter is convinced that I am the nicest skunk she has ever seen.
- 47. I will not fight with the baby for her pacifiers and bottles, and even if I'm bad and I do steal a bottle, I will not stash it under a very hard to reach place so that my owners have to go find the nasty smell or move.
- **48.** I will not follow my human aimlessly until she trips over me while backing up, falls on a door, and renders herself infertile by breaking off the door knob with her stomach.
- 49. I will not French-kiss my human, or at least next time I'll brush my teeth first. (yechh!)
- 50. I will not get into a screaming match when my humans are "busy".
- **51.** I will not give my human mountains of kisses, just because I really want her to put me down, and I want her to think that I was telling you how much I will miss you when I run off!
- 52. I will not grab my human's friend's shoe (while still on her foot) and try to drag her to my hidey-hole. No matter how nice she is, this is not a good way to make friends.

- **53.** I will not have a snooze on the human's chest, wake up suddenly and rake said chest, clean out the human's nose with kisses, back off 2 inches, gaze into human's eyes, open my mouth, give a good bellyburp like I've been on the lager/curry/kebab all night, then give human the dirtiest look for making me do that.
- 54. I will not jump at the human's friend's leg, just because I want her to pick me up especially when she's wearing shorts. She doesn't want to pick me up, and I will not chase her from room to room until my human grabs me to rescue her from me.
- **55.** I will not jump up and lick my human's face when he is sleeping on the couch, especially when he does not like the fact that I have free reign of the house.
- 56. I will not look cute and innocent when guest come over only to lure them into a false sense of security so I may steal their keys, purses, stocking caps and scarves.
- 57. I will not lunge out of my hiding place from behind and bite my human HARD when she uses the squeaky toy to call me. She makes a very loud noise and hops around howling when I do that. I understand she is only trying to find me because she's late for work.
- **58.** I will not nip my human male when my human female is in a bad mood. It might not always be his fault.(Smoke does this every time I get upset. He is a very sensitive ferret)
- 59. I will not plant my cold, wet nose in my (female) human's back, armpit, or neck to make her squeal (even if it is lots of fun!)
- **60.** I will not play six rounds of "bite the ankle and be kicked out of bed" with the new human house-mate on her first night. (The house-mate had been told that I would give up after only three rounds.)
- **61.** I will not poke my head up over the edge of the bed while my humans are "preoccupied." Seeing my head poking up makes them laugh, and they cannot "concentrate" then.
- **62.** I will not pounce on my human's leg while she is waxing them. Ferrets are supposed to have hair, and I should not talk my brother into doing it after it took 20 minutes for my human to clean me up.
- **63.** I will not run off and plot revenge when my human reprimands me, and then pounce on her and bite HARD when she has forgotten all about it.
- 64. I will not run up someone's pant leg, especially if said person is currently wearing said pants.
- **65.** I will not scale my human in an attempt to get chocolate /raisins /ferretone.
- 66. I will not scare the neighbour's children. They think I'm cute and feel bad when I growl at them.
- 67. I will not sneak up and play "Kujo" on my human's armpit while she is lying on the bed talking on the phone.
- 68. I will not steal feminine hygiene products and drag them into the living room when my human has guests over.
- 69. I will not stick my nose on my human's or her guest's butt when they sit in the recliner.
- **70.** I will not take advantage of my human's stupidity in leaving a small box next to a bigger box, with a carry cage on top of that, right beside the highest kitchen bench. I am a ground dwelling ferret.
- 71. I will not tease my human who is late for school and trying to put me back in my cage by biting her toes and then running back under the couch and repeating the process until she gives up and fishes me out with a broomstick.
- 72. I will not tickle the backs of my humans' knees with my whiskers while they're trying to sleep.
- 73. I will not try to drag my human male under the bed. He is much too big to fit.
- 74. I will not work furiously at removing the dryer hose from the vent so that I may escape. Furthermore, I will not then jump into a stranger's car, scaring her badly, and requiring her to take me to the police station, where I must remain for three days until they can figure out: a) what I am, and b) who I belong to.
- 75. I will only look cute when visitors are around so that the visitors are not convinced my human is loony for putting up with me.
- **76.** I will stay out of my humans' armpits.
- 77. I will stop diving and biting at my human's kneecaps then running away when she takes off her pants or gets out of the shower just to get her attention. She yells really loud and it scares me.
- **78.** I will try to refrain from licking my human directly on her eyeball.
- 79. Licking the forehead of a human is not the way to wake them up, no matter if I was let out by a different human.
- **80.** My (female) human's mother is scared of me. It's not personal, but I shouldn't dook and do the war dance in front of her to make her jump up, stand on the couch and scream.
- **81.** My human's toes are not edible.
- 82. Noses, ears and chins are not my enemies.
- 83. We shall not kiss and kiss our human and then bite him on the chin.
- 84. We shall not scratch at our human's socks to get her attention to get treats.
- 85. Weaving in and out of my human's feet while they are walking may cause me to get stepped on and that hurts.
- 86. When my human has guests over, I will not sneak on the back of the couch and climb in their hair.
- 87. When my human is making out with his girlfriend, I should not use the opportunity to climb her shirt, bite on to her bra, and not let go. My human seems to get amazingly irritated at this sense of timing.
- **88.** When my human lets me play 'twosies' (the 2 of us in the same piece of clothing), I will not bite her when I find the first bit of bare flesh.
- **89.** While my human has been playing catch up with my intelligence ever since I came along, this does not necessarily mean that I should continually learn new tricks to keep him in a constant state of confusion and helplessness. "Now how the heck did you do that" is, by far, not my human's favorite sentence.

#### --- Mess-Making ----

- 1. Although my human should not have bought cheap knock off Teva's, I did not need to eat them and become deathly ill to prove this point.
- 2. Boxes of puzzle pieces are not my playpens and I should not belly surf in them.
- 3. Chinese food is a bad thing to hide under the couch, especially if no one finds it for a few days.
- 4. Chocolate syrup and ketchup are not bath products and should not be rolled in.
- 5. Christmas trees are not for climbing, Christmas ornaments especially the old ones are not toys, and I do not need to twinkle by getting wrapped up in the Christmas lights, I could get hurt. And the water is for the tree, not for me.
- 6. Cups contain liquids. When I knock them over to take a peek, the liquids spill out. When liquids spill out I get wet and stain my human's floor. Drinking the liquid will not clean the floor but if carbonated it may give me the hiccups.
- 7. Every glass on the table doesn't need to be tipped over to be enjoyed.
- 8. Face-diving in the dog's water dish is not fun. Really.
- 9. Feather pillows are for sleeping, not for looking for the animal in the case who made all the feathers...never did find it.
- 10. Ferret poop does not make good décor. Nor does it make good potpourri.
- **11.** Glasses are to hold liquid, not to be tipped over.
- 12. I am a white ferret and I do not need to color myself green with a marker I found under the couch.
- **13.** I do not need to dig all the water out of my water dish.
- 14. I do not need to go through all of the hanging folders and "file" myself while "unfiling" all the papers.
- **15.** I do not need to go through my human's purse and take out everything including papers, keys and her cell phone, even thought it is fun to play with her stuff.
- 16. I do not need to see what is in the bag of potting soil on the freshly swept patio. It is the same thing it was yesterday, and the day before.
- 17. I do not need to spread my food all over the top floor of my house, just because, I do not like the new brand.
- **18.** I will not "table surf" by jumping from the coffee table to the end table, sliding as I land and knocking everything down in my path.
- **19.** I will not buddy up with my brother and knock off the bedside lamp, the alarm clock and the book my human reads. Someday the lamp will fall on me and it will hurt! Besides. the one ON TOP of the table is the one who always gets caught. (They do this: one stands on the floor and is the "lookout" while the other one pushes the things off. when something falls to the floor, the one on the floor starts pulling it under the bed still plugged in!)"
- 20. I will not burrow into the cat's clumping litter after I just had a bath (It means ANOTHER bath!)
- 21. I will not claw open and empty my humans sock drawer to sleep inside. It would be much more comfortable with the socks in it, not on the floor.
- 22. I will not climb in boxes full of packaging popcorn and scatter it everywhere.
- 23. I will not climb into the bottom drawer of the nightstand from behind and try to abscond with my human's insulin pen's needles.
- 24. I will not climb my cage using the back-against-the-wall trick to get to the top, then leap to the entertainment center and proceed to push everything off the top to watch it fall.
- 25. I will not climb the furniture in a long, circuitous route to get to the fireplace and root in the ashes, whether or note there is a fire. This tends to get me an immediate bath and a scolding from my frantic and scared human. (Every time he escapes, the first place Midasu heads is the fireplace, turning a lovely white ferret into a sooty grey/black one.)
- 26. I will not climb to the top of my cage, leap to the microwave cart and then to the baker's rack to knock over my human's plants.
- 27. I will not climb up into the tropical plant and throw the dirt and stones all over the floor. There are no toys at the bottom.
- 28. I will not climb up on the stereo table and knock off all the CD's just to make sure gravity is still working.
- **29.** I will not climb up the tall shelves next to my human's bed, then climb over onto the tall headboard, then go parasailing like a flying squirrel into a hanging plant; where I will not proceed to dig out every bit of dirt, scattering it all over the floor and freshly made bed.
- 30. I will not climb up the underside of the ironing board in the closet to reach the top shelf so that I can push things off of it.
- 31. I will not dig in the newspaper at the bottom of the bird cage to see what goodies the birds have dropped.
- **32.** I will not dig the wood pellet litter out of the box on the top level of my cage just to hear it pitter-patter down three levels and out onto the floor.
- 33. I will not drag my human's sewing thread all over the house. It gets very tangled!
- 34. I will not escape from my cage while my humans are at work, steal a six pack of toilet paper, drag it under the bed to rip it ALL to shreds, then drag four of my human's daughter's Barbies into my TP "nest" and fall asleep in it until my humans come home. I will also not look incredibly cute and innocent when my humans find me.
- **35.** I will not escape out of my cage and run across the table at Thanksgiving time leaving foot prints in the potatoes, and cream pies as well as knocking over glasses.
- **36.** I will not flip over my litter box.
- **37.** I will not go through the money on my human's desk, pushing over onto the floor the old quarters in order to get to the new ones. (But they are much shinier and prettier...)
- **38.** I will not hide in the dresser and poop on dad's clothes every time I can't figure my way out.
- **39.** I will not insist on digging all the litter out of my litterbox after my human has just cleaned my cage and refilled my litterbox.

- **40.** I will not investigate the kitchen cupboards and proceed to leave little cornflour footprints on the polished floor in the entrance hall.
- **41.** I will not jump from the couch to the coffee table. The table is very slippery under my feet and I end up sliding across, sending remote controls and books crashing to the floor. Sometimes I will jump too hard, and end up sliding across the table right off the other side.
- 42. I will not knock a five pound bag of my food off a shelf and scatter its contents all over my human's bedroom.
- **43.** I will not knock every single pen, piece of paper, knick-knack etc off of the desk simply so that I can get to the rubber feet of my human's desk organizer.
- **44.** I will not knock my human's beer to the floor, call my gang over and have a beerfest to the point where we are all roaring drunk. I will not do this again as it causes my human to call the emergency vet for instructions.
- **45.** I will not knock my water dish into my pile of poop.
- **46.** I will not knock over a milkshake and roll it up and down the hallway.
- **47.** I will not knock over every plant I can get to. It makes a BIG mess and my human doesn't like trying to get black topsoil out of the light beige carpeting.
- **48.** I will not knock over glasses just because they have liquid in them.
- **49.** I will not knock over the water dish on the carpet and then dig at the carpet.
- **50.** I will not nest in the fiberglass insulation.
- 51. I will not open the plastic container of clay and spread it from one end of the house to the other.
- 52. I will not play archeologist and excavate in my human's ashtray (especially when she is doing her patchwork).
- **53.** I will not poke my head into my female human's glass of soda and then splutter and shake my head because the bubbles tickle my nose. She thinks this is funny, but I usually spray my male human and he thinks I do it on purpose.
- 54. I will not pretend I want some catnip, and then when my human lets me see the container, I will not sneeze and shake my head, scattering half of the catnip across the floor.
- 55. I will not pry the lid off the Tupperware container full of cat food, and then knock it down and spill it all over the floor.
- **56.** I will not pull live plants out of the aquarium and leave them dripping wet on the couch.
- 57. I will not pull plants off of the table and onto my head, it may make me even more air headed.
- 58. I will not push the food and water dish all over the kitchen floor, so that the water splashes out and leaves a wet trail for my human to clean up.
- 59. I will not remove all the CDs from the bottom shelf of the CD cabinet.
- **60.** I will not remove all the foam insoles from my human's shoes.
- **61.** I will not remove all the tissue out of the box on the nightstand.
- 62. I will not run through the ashtray and spread ash all over the coffee table.
- 63. I will not scatter a pile of newly folded clean laundry.
- **64.** I will not shred the rolls of toilet paper so that my human has to hide them from Grandma.
- **65.** I will not snatch the phone cord in my teeth, and dart behind the couch with it, pulling the phone across the coffee table sweeping the ash-tray, half full beer bottles, and my human's Chinese food take-out containers onto the floor.
- **66.** I will not sneak out of my cage while my humans are on vacation, leave my little brother behind scared and upset that I have left, spend hours getting into things that I am not supposed to and then greet my ferret sitter at the door when she arrives to feed and play with me.
- 67. I will not spill and topple every container in my cage that is not securely tied down.
- 68. I will not spill my human's can of beer and then drink it. I am not of legal age to drink.
- 69. I will not spill my human's glass of water at her bed's head, all around the three clock radios.
- 70. I will not spill sesame oil on the rug as I drag the bottle back to my hidey hole it has a very strong smell that never goes away.
- 71. I will not steal a ball of yarn out of the knitting basket and run all around the house with it while it unravels and makes a really tangled mess. (You should have seen the mess. It looked just like a spider's web, two inches from the ground, and twisted around every piece of furniture.)
- 72. I will not steal all of the skeins of yarn, drag them under the couch for nests and chatter at my human when she wants them back.
- 73. I will not steal my human's quart size zip-lock bag full of aquarium rocks to spread all over the floor under the bed.
- 74. I will not steal tubes of Oreos from the kitchen and hide them under the dresser.
- **75.** I will not tip my litterbox over after my human just cleaned my cage.
- 76. I will not tip over glasses to find out what is inside.
- 77. I will not tip the dog's water dish, forming a lake in the middle of the kitchen floor.
- **78.** I will not treat the cat's bubbling electric water bowl like it was my own personal swimming pool and splash around in it. My human didn't need to mop the kitchen floor at 2 a.m.
- 79. I will not try to "help" my human by repotting her plants all over the living room floor.
- **80.** I will not try to drag a rubber aluminum can holder off to my favorite hiding place to chew and play with if it has an open can of soda in it. My humans don't need another stain on their carpet.
- **81.** I will not try to see what is buried under my human's house plant them leave a trail of muddy footprints up to and across her keyboard.
- 82. I will not use my nose as a shovel to push my water dish around the room. I make big puddles and my human might slip over and break her foot again.

- 83. I will not wait until my human's back is turned, then spill her soda onto the bed so I can lick it up without the fizz bothering me.
- 84. I will not weasel war dance in the freshly laid poop on the middle of the floor.
- 85. I will refrain from stealing my human's son's mechanical pencils and hiding them in the basement.
- 86. I will stop knocking my water bottle off the cage and then lapping whatever spilled in the fall up off the carpet.
- 87. Macaroni does not need to be use as floor covering in the kitchen. It hurts the human's feet if they step on it at night.
- 88. My human's shower gel tube is not something I need to puncture and then apply to myself.
- **89.** Pecans are not soccer balls and it takes time for the humans to collect them.
- **90.** Potato chips should not be stashed in the bed under the covers.
- **91.** Potatoes do not need to be planted under the center of the waterbed. Yes they will grow there and make a nice vine, but are very hard to get to and it takes a long time to take the bed apart, drain it and then put it back together and refill it. Especially in the winter, it also takes time to heat back up.
- **92.** There is no reason to dig all of the dirt out of the plants.
- **93.** We will not break down the plexiglass gate to our room, coax the cats into breaking down the one at the top of the stairs (the last defense against an all out fuzzie jail break), and re-arrange the rest of the house for our humans to appreciate when they come home from a two-day road trip.
- **94.** We will not cart a large amount of cat litter (clean, fortunately) into the closet and spread it neatly on the floor for whatever strange purpose.
- **95.** We will not escape from our enclosure (the Ferretorium) while our humans are gone for the weekend and spend two days digging up carpet, getting into the garbage and spreading sweet and sour sauce all over the floor, stealing Christmas ornaments and carrying them all the way up the stairs and hiding them in our ferret tent, chewing up red candles, eating all the left over Halloween candy and barfing it all over the house, chasing cats up the Christmas tree, getting into the fireplace and scattering ashes all over the living room, emptying out the bathroom cabinets, crawling around behind the dishwasher, sleeping in pots and pans, shredding a roll of paper towels, eating a can of peanuts and having peanut-diarrhea all over the dining room, eating oreos under the bed, pooping in all the corners, swimming in the cat's water bowl, taking a poop right in front of the door two minutes before the humans come home so they step in it and greeting my humans at the door with an evil grin. (We're still cleaning up after the ferrets' big adventure.)
- **96.** When I am molting it is not a good idea to sleep in my human's brand new black business suit especially when he has a major presentation to do next day.

# --- Miscellaneous ---

- 1. I can sit still when my human's taking a photo of me to show her friends and family instead of running off and being merely a blur on the negative.
- 2. I will be blamed for things I do, even though I'm so good at looking cute and innocent.
- 3. I will continue to be a good example to all five of my brothers (for all the good it does), and almost never do anything wrong.
- 4. I will never again climb into a garbage bag that on its way to the outside garbage can and fall asleep in it for 5 hours causing my humans to panic and search the entire house.
- 5. I will not get in the couch where my humans can't get me. Plus, I could get hurt if someone sits down.
- 6. I will not go to sleep for hours just before my human is ready to put me in my cage.
- 7. I will not sleep in my litter box even it has been used. I will not continue to move back to sleep in my litter box after my human has moved me out.
- 8. When I am brought to a friend's house, I will not escape my human's loving hands, terrorize the dog, and fall asleep behind the stove.

# --- Misuse/Misappropriation of Items ---

- 1. Even though I figured out how to open the cabinet doors, I will not climb into them, scale my way into the upper drawers, and steal silverware, just to take it and hide it in my hidey-hole. My owner gets upset and confused when he sits on the couch only to have a spatula poke him in the back.
- 2. Even though my parents named me after a Kender, I should not act like one, being utterly fearless, brainless, and a kleptomaniac. (Kenders are something that gamers would recognize (I left out all of the stolen dice references, since other gamers have sent you plenty of those). It's a race from the Dragonlance book series. They stand at about three feet tall, are permanently happy, don't know what fear or sadness are, and regularly 'find' objects in their pockets that weren't there before.)
- **3.** Guests seem to get rather upset with my human when I root into their purses and steal their expensive make up. Perhaps I shouldn't even be in their purses to begin with.
- 4. I am not a ninja and can therefore not steal the bathroom plunger and run down the hallway to hide it without being caught, no matter how many times I try to do it quietly.
- 5. I am not allowed to cook, therefore there is no need to steal the spatulas and stash them under the bed.
- 6. I can not tell time, therefore there is no need for me to steal my human's alarm clock every time I sneak into the bedroom.
- 7. I do not know how to drink from a straw; therefore I do not need to steal one every time I spot one.
- 8. I do not know how to sew so I must not take my human's patchwork and quilting supplies or rearrange her patchwork blocks.
- 9. I do not need to sleep on top of every pair of shoes. I will content myself with the shoes they give me to play with, and stop

running off with all the others.

- **10.** I don't belong in the fireplace.
- **11.** I have no need for a Leatherman tool.
- 12. I realize I am not a fisherman, and I hate water, so I have no need to steal my human's fishing line.
- **13.** I recognize that the dishwasher is not my secondary water bowl.
- 14. I will no take the baby's bottle while she is drinking it even if it smells good.
- **15.** I will not assume that if I can see it, it is mine to take.
- 16. I will not attempt to steal my mother's belly button ring, I know that it is shiny but it is attached to her stomach.
- 17. I will not believe that the underwear drawer is the best and greatest place to sleep.
- 18. I will not dig a hole inside my humans new love seat, use one end as a bed and the other as my new potty (so convenient).
- **19.** I will not drag the broom under the bed.
- 20. I will not drag the video tapes off of the TV stand and hide them underneath the logs in the fireplace.
- 21. I will not find any and all prescription bottles with pills and hide them in various places in the house.
- 22. I will not hide my human's glasses in the center under the bed where they are impossible to reach. She is blinder than I am and can't see the TV without them.
- 23. I will not hide my human's good spectacles in the dim, dark recesses of her wardrobe where she finally finds them 6 months later.
- **24.** I will not hide my human's swimming goggles.
- **25.** I will not hide my toys in the fish tank.
- 26. I will not hide remote controls for the TV, VCR or stereo.
- 27. I will not hide rubber-soled shoes once my human takes them off.
- 28. I will not hide my human's favorite hairbrush, toothbrush and tongue cleaner in my favorite hidey-hole where she had to move a big dresser to get them back. I have plenty of toys that are really toys.
- **29.** I will not hide the brick of Havarti cheese that I stole from my human's grocery bags behind the clothes-washer so that she can have fun playing "What's that smell", a two weeks later.
- **30.** I will not hide the frozen rats my human buys to feed to his Albino Burmese Python, even if it is fun to watch my human locate them by scent several days later.
- 31. I will not hide the only set of keys that my human has to her brand new Camaro.
- **32.** I will not hoard the dog food.
- **33.** I will not insist on stealing the rubber bath tub stopper and hiding it under the bed every time my human forgets to place it out of reach.
- 34. I will not knock a box of candy on the floor and then hid every individual bar under the bed.
- **35.** I will not learn to scale the 6 foot tall entertainment center and knock candles off to my sister, who then takes them and hides them away for future gnawing and destruction.
- **36.** I will not make off with my humans' cell phone and go under the bed (my favorite hidy hole).
- **37.** I will not pull a five-pound bunch of bananas off the table and hide them inside the couch no matter how much all three of us want them. They could land on my three-pound body and hurt. They are also hard to open and get squishy when I chew off the tops. (The six-month-old baby did this in the time it took me to put the milk away and return to the dining room. It took two hours to find the bananas.)
- 38. I will not run off with my human's favourite, most comfortable pair of shoes the split second that she takes them off her feet.
- **39.** I will not sleep in my clean litter pan.
- **40.** I will not start a lighter collection under the couch.
- **41.** I will not start a pizza collection under the couch.
- **42.** I will not stash Cheerios in my human's pillowcase.
- **43.** I will not stash kitchen knives.
- 44. I will not stash the dead mouse or the chicken wing in my ferret-tube.
- **45.** I will not steal all of my humans' stuffed animals.
- 46. I will not steal all the candy out of the Easter baskets and hide it behind the TV set.
- **47.** I will not steal and stash under a 300 pound office desk, the pacifier and stuffed Ernie belonging to my human's neice. It causes the 2 year old to complete with me for "loudest most obnoxious noise".
- **48.** I will not steal bananas and hide them under the couch. They do not taste good rotten.
- **49.** I will not steal checks off the table and hide them when my human needs to cash them.
- **50.** I will not steal dollar bills and car keys from pants lying on the floor.
- **51.** I will not steal items out of guest's travel bags, like toothbrushes, razors, and eyeglass cases.
- 52. I will not steal my human's bag of crickets. They are for the lizards, not me.
- **53.** I will not steal my humans' books they are reading or a pack of their cigarettes (sometimes this is the only thing that keeps my humans sane and who needs crazy humans? LOL) or the last lighter in the house (the lighter thing drove my humans crazy because they used it to light the stove as well as their cigarettes) to stash away in my hidey-hole.
- **54.** I will not steal my human's bra to store food in even though the cups work rather well. (My female Jasmin will go to great lengths for a bra, I even had to hang them from the ceiling fan until I could ferret proof the dresser! Jasmin would sit on the bed looking up and hope one would fall.)
- 55. I will not steal my human's cough drops even though they are delicious. She gets upset when she finds them stuck to the carpet.

- 56. I will not steal my human's friend's socks and hide them so they have to go home with no socks.
- 57. I will not steal my human's graphing calculator that she placed on top of a table that I presumably cannot climb onto.
- **58.** I will not steal my human's porcelain dolls and drag them away under the rocking chair, just so I can rip the hair off and run away and hide it. Porcelain dolls are not pretty without hair, and I have enough of my own.
- 59. I will not steal my humans watch and make her listen for it to beep on the hour for 2 weeks until she finds it.
- **60.** I will not steal packets of two minute noodles and stash them in my human's bedroom.
- **61.** I will not steal samples from the Tupperware lady. If I do she won't come back. I will not drag off Mommy's umbrella to my hidey-hole. I don't get caught in the rain so I don't need it.
- 62. I will not steal the "Bad-Ferret-water-pistol".
- **63.** I will not steal the *entire* pizza the roommate just ordered and set on the dining room table while she is in the kitchen getting plates and napkins for her and her daughter. (In the span of 45 seconds, Stilcho had made off with a large pizza from the dining room table, leaving the box on the table, dragged it down the stairs to the basement laundry room, and stashed it/buried it under a pile of laundry. The fact that he was able to do this and not leave a trail of pieces (the pizza stayed intact) amazes me to this day. The roommate did not hear anything, nor did we find it for another week. The roommate, after looking for the pizza for half an hour, was forced to order another one.)
- **64.** I will not steal the bathtub plug.
- **65.** I will not steal the entire bag of 100 latex gloves my humans keep under the sink, mouthful at a time and hide them in various places all over the house.
- **66.** I will not steal the kitchen sink plug and put it in my hidey-hole.
- **67.** I will not steal the KY jelly.
- 68. I will not steal the same pack of windshield wiper blades six times in two minutes.
- 69. I will not take all of the baby's teething toys. I already have all my teeth and do not need to chew on them.
- 70. I will not take cigarettes from the packet because my human says that I am too young to smoke.
- 71. I will not take important court papers out of my human's purse and hide them in my hidey-hole. It makes her frantic and causes her to dig obsessively in her purse emptying the contents several times, which I'd rather do myself.
- 72. I will not take socks back into my hidey-hole at the same time my human is trying to get them out.
- 73. I will not take that baby's pacifier (even if my name is baby). It doesn't fit my mouth.
- 74. I will not try to put on my human's lotion.
- **75.** I will not try to steal every insole of every shoe of every human in the house.
- 76. I will not try to steal my human's can of soda and hide it under the couch every time she turns her head.
- 77. I will not try to steal my human's socks while she is still wearing them.
- 78. I will stop stealing my human's wrist braces. She needs them. I don't.
- 79. I will stop trying to steal the enormous bags of potato chips that the humans bring home.
- 80. I will wait until the soda bottle is empty before I steal it.
- **81.** I won't get my male human blamed any more for there never being a lighter within reach when needed. I will hand over my entire stash.
- **82.** I won't steal prophylactics. I won't bite holes in prophylactics, and I'm lucky I didn't get a massive blockage from consuming a prophylactic.
- **83.** Just because the full trash bag is too heavy for me to steal, I do not have to convince all my brothers and sisters to help me put it under the couch.
- 84. My brother's head is not a toy.
- 85. My human's bras aren't mine and I should tell her they're all under the bed in a big fluffy nest if I remember next time I see her.
- 86. My humans diamond necklace that was her grandmothers is not a toy and should not be stashed.
- 87. My human's PS2 controller isn't mine, even if it is on the ground.
- 88. No matter how hard I try, I cannot stash a five pound bag of cat food behind the fridge.
- 89. No matter how much I think I need my human's leather purse, she assures me that I don't.
- **90.** On a side note, I did have one ferret that during the last year of his life, turned into the Anti-Ferret, and started returning items that the other two had stolen. The first time he did this was when my wife returned from shopping and she had left a bag with a box of Kleenex sitting on the living room floor, our three kids (Chenya, Moraine, and Stilcho) were playing in the bag and had removed the box of Kleenex and the two sisters were trying to get into it. Stilcho came over, sniffed the box for a few seconds, then wandered off to god knows were, and returned with a pocket pack of Kleenex that the wife brought home as a souvenir from London (all the Kleenex were printed with the county flag...go figure) and set it on top of the now forgotten box of Kleenex. After that, about once a week he would come out of nowhere with another item that had been swiped and stashed.
- **91.** Socks are not to be stolen off the feet and then hidden.
- 92. Swim suits, swim caps, and goggles are not toys. My human needs them to practice with the swim team every day. My human also gets mad at me when I chew holes in her swim cap.
- **93.** The car keys are not a toy and should not be stashed.
- 94. The carpet isn't toilet paper.
- **95.** The Christmas tree skirt is not to be tunneled under.
- **96.** The computer keyboard is not a bed.
- 97. The condensation on the toilet tank is not for me to use as a water fountain.

- **98.** The vacuum does not belong under the couch. I will stop trying to put it there. (Two pound ferret. Twenty pound vacuum. She still manages to drag it from the study into the living room and pull the tip of it under the couch.).
- **99.** We will not hide in the wadding that my human has bought for the new patchwork quilt that she is making. We will not tear holes in it to make a nice comfy bed.
- **100.** When my human goes to fix herself a cup of coffee, I will not steal her VISA card and hide it in the bathtub. This makes her think she is losing her mind because she just took it out of her purse to call in an order and she laid it down right on the couch.

### --- Night-time ----

- 1. At night is not the time to brawl with my brother/sister, rattling the cage and waking my humans at 2:00 a.m.
- 2. I must not wake my human in the morning, before the alarm clock has had a chance to go off and she has had her first cup of tea. My human says that I am suicidal and if I ever try it again that I can visit St Peter at the Pearly Gates.
- 3. I really do not need flying lessons so badly that I climb into my human's bed and bite her toes to awaken her.
- 4. I will not "goose" the dog at 2:30 in the morning on a work night just to set off a chain of events starting with the dog that does not bark in the house unless something is wrong, causing the male human to jump out of bed thinking there is an intruder in the house, wait for him to finish searching the house, then allow him and the dog to settle down and go back to sleep just to do it all again.
- 5. I will not bash my Coke bottle (my favourite toy) around the cage during the night, making so much noise that my human cannot sleep.
- 6. I will not behave all day and then constantly dig my carpet in my cage all night.
- 7. I will not bite my human's ankles in the morning to wake her up. If the caffeine in coffee was so harmful, she wouldn't drink it.
- 8. I will not chew on my human's lips and do my war dance on his chest when he is sleeping.
- 9. I will not climb onto my human's face while she is sleeping and pick her nose.
- **10.** I will not jump on the clock/radio setting off the alarm prematurely, this upsets my human by waking her up earlier than she intended.
- 11. I will not sleep in the pillows and cause my human to rise 4 feet off the bed when I scream because she laid down on me.
- 12. I will not step on the power button on the stereo at 4 a.m., especially when it is set on radio, at a rather loud volume.
- **13.** I will not stick my nose in my humans' ear while she is sleeping.
- 14. I will not throw all of my food out of my cage, then squeak loudly for my human to feed me at night.
- 15. I will not try to scrape all the skin off my human's leg whenever her legs are under covers.
- 16. I will not wake up my human by dragging a half-eaten peanut butter and jelly sandwich across her head in an attempt to bring it to my hidey hole and eat it.
- 17. I will not wake up my human by yanking on her hair with my teeth.
- 18. I will try to remember that humans don't like having me clean behind their knees in the middle of the night.
- **19.** Night is not the time to bring to moms attention I have killed an evil mouse and want her to see it by placing it on her chest or beside her head.
- 20. Night is not the time to show Mom I know how to turn on the TV and raise the volume to 10.
- 21. We will not pick 3 a.m. to grab the door of the cage with our teeth and shake it, trying to get out. We must remember that we have already been out to play for several hours the day before, and at that time of the night, it will get us nowhere.
- 22. We will not pick 3 a.m. to play with the loudest, most obnoxious toy in our cage. We know that the human is trying to sleep, and this annoys her.
- 23. When I figure out how to open our room's door in the middle of the night, going directly to my parents room to wake them up and show them I'm out cuts down on the time I get exploring the rest of the house.
- 24. When my human is sleeping, I will not escape from my cage, use the blinds to climb up to the top of the 8 foot book shelf, and then take a flying leap onto my human's face, claws out. It is NOT a good surprise, nor is it fun for anyone hearing him scream because of said action. No one benefits from flying ferrets.
- 25. When my human is sleeping, it is not a good time to climb under the blankets and bite.
- 26. When my humans are sleeping, even though I look like one, I will not play 'commando' and escape from my cage to terrorize the other pets, humans, parents, telephone, or shoes.
- 27. While my tongue will reach in to my humans ear up to the brain, I must not do this at night. It makes her jump straight up and sends me flying.

#### --- Noise ----

- 1. Getting my teeth brushed once a month will not kill me. I don't have to scream like I am being cut open.
- 2. Hissing and dooking doesn't make my humans think twice about messing with big bad me. They think it's cute and I get picked up and snuggled when I need to be playing.
- **3.** I shouldn't root through the litter, have a sneezing fit, and then make a god awful high-pitched screeching noise to get the litter out of my throat. It sounds like I'm dying and my human cries.
- 4. I will not jump in the air, dart at my human and scream at the top of my lungs just because it is fun (it frightens my human).
- 5. I will not rattle the carrier door trying to get out into the car.
- 6. I will not scratch at the metal screen in the window with my claws. It makes a sound that drives my human nuts.

- 7. I will not scream at the top of my lungs when I'm given a bath, causing the neighbors to knock on the door asking if everything is all right. It annoys my human and scares the neighbors.
- 8. I will not scream like I am being killed when we have guests over just because I want out to see them. They might think my human is not a good slave.
- **9.** Though I may be a certified master escape artist, perhaps I should learn my lesson when I get stuck on top of the 6 foot tall entertainment center and have to scream to the top of my lungs for my human to come rescue me. Though he doesn't know for certain how I escaped my cage, he will eventually learn and then I won't be able to anymore.
- **10.** We will not torture the dog by fake fighting on the Lanai. Our behavior causes the dog to bang on the Lanai door (which is glass) and bark. Our screeching combined with the barking howling dog causes the neighbors to be VERY upset.

#### --- Not All There ---

- 1. After having flea poof put on me, I will not jump a foot in the air dancing about wildly on her bed, scaring her into thinking I'm going to fall off. (Flea poof is a foamy flea medication that I lathered into his fur every couple of days.)
- 2. After my human has pulled off the old lining on the bottom of the loveseat, replaced it with plywood, and sewn up all the holes I made into the upholstery (causing some bleeding fingers, let me tell you), I will not wait for 2 heavy humans to sit on it, creating just a tiny crack of room for me to squeeze under their butts into the innards of the couch. I will not then be lost for 24 hours in there, causing my frantic humans to have to pry off the new plywood bottom with a hammer and rescue my dehydrated self.
- **3.** As pretty as it might look, and even though the cat does it too (which she shouldn't), I will try to resist my urges to play with the fire in the fireplace.
- 4. Chasing my tail when my human puts tape on it is fun at first, but after a while I will get dizzy.
- 5. Chewing on my bowl out of frustration for being put in my cage for time out doesn't evoke sympathy just sore teeth.
- 6. Fire is hot no matter how many times I inspect it just to make sure it hasn't gone cold.
- 7. I can go into the deep end of the bathtub without drowning. My sister isn't scared of it and she's smaller than me.
- 8. I cannot fly, no matter how many times I try. And eventually the humans might not manage to catch me.
- 9. I do not need to look in all the vases. I get stuck and Mom has a heart attack and has to take me to the vet to have them removed or break the vase.
- **10.** I do not need to stick my nose in between the clippers and my nails when they are being trimmed. I could end up with a lousy nose job.
- **11.** I must stay out of the trash compactor, especially when the young human has an obsession with closing it. Some day mom will not be around to remind him to check before turning it on, which could lead to me being a very thin ferret indeed.
- 12. I need to really get a handle on my urge to sniff my sister's hind quarters when she's tail-up in the litter box.
- 13. I really shouldn't practice belly surfing off my human's bed because the floor is a very hard place to land.
- 14. I shouldn't put all twelve of my TP tubes in my hammock. I end up with no place to sleep.
- 15. I will be careful while doing the war dance so as not to crack my head on a hard object and knock myself out.
- **16.** I will look before I leap backwards.
- 17. I will never again eat candles.
- **18.** I will not attack little kids clothes.
- **19.** I will not attack the vacuum cleaner repeatedly until my paws have been run over and even then get up and attack with renewed vigor.
- 20. I will not attempt to climb down the side of my cage head first. I will fall and land on my head.
- 21. I will not build a nest of dirty clothes in the dryer's motor cavity and disappear into it overnight, nearly giving my humans heart failure.
- **22.** I will not burn my whiskers in a candle flame--twice.
- 23. I will not chew my human's rubber spatulas.
- 24. I will not chew off, and then eat, the rubber "feet" on the computer tower. They tend to get stuck in my intestines and cost a lot for my human to have removed.
- **25.** I will not chew on cords. There is a more traditional way to get a perm.
- 26. I will not climb into my human's shoe, get stuck, and return to do the same thing 5 times in a row.
- 27. I will not climb the highest point in the room that I can get to and leap off because I am not a Kamikaze Ferret or a bird.
- 28. I will not crawl into the intake of the furnace. My human should not have to take the whole vent system apart, just to find out that I am in the bottom of the furnace tearing up the furnace filter. Tearing up a fiberglass furnace filter can cause irritation to the skin & eyes.
- **29.** I will not dash up the couch and onto the railing of the loft. This causes many tipped plates of food, and spilled drinks as my humans jump in panic to get me before I fall off the other side.
- **30.** I will not disappear down long, dark holes and reappear in furnaces.
- **31.** I will not drink the soapy water that collects in the shower drain.
- **32.** I will not escape my cage while being my human is out and her mother comes over and leaves the balcony door open. I don't want to fall off the balcony and land on the parkade 6 stories down and scare all the nice people in the apartment complex. (It hurts and it gives my human a heart attack when she finds out where I am. A nice lady who smelled like ferrets too picked me up and took me to the vet emergency clinic.)
- 33. I will not find a way to remove the grate covering the air-conditioning vent and crawl into it only for my humans to hear me

digging frantically and FREAK themselves out trying to rescue me.

- **34.** I will not get a wad of duct tape stuck on my tail and have my brother use it for a play toy.
- **35.** I will not get behind the oven and fall asleep. It's dirty and dangerous, and my female human is afraid the male human will break the gas pipe when he has to lug the oven away from the wall to get me out.
- **36.** I will not get my foot caught in a table leg and scream my brains out while my human is on the phone talking to the phone company.
- **37.** I will not get under my human while she is sitting down.
- 38. I will not go into an enraged frenzy and attack my human every time the dog toy squeaks! (Parents and brother find it hilarious.)
- **39.** I will not jump into a trash can full of ice water to try to get to the shiny beer cans cooling at the bottom.
- 40. I will not jump off the back of the couch to try to get in a box that's too far away. The floor is very hard and I could get hurt.
- 41. I will not jump on the couch/love seat and try to dig my way in the secret world inside the couch/loveseat.
- 42. I will not lose it once or twice a day and race through the house acting like my hiney is on fire.
- **43.** I will not meander over to Mommy's feet to give them kisses after she has sprayed mosquito repellant on them. It might cause me to die (or at least get sick).
- 44. I will not pass gas and then jump and try to see where the sound and smell came from.
- **45.** I will not put my nose in the end of the vacuum cleaner to see how much fun the suction is. My human has a heart attack thinking I'll get sucked up in the cleaner.
- **46.** I will not scale my cage and then look pitiful until my human saves me.
- **47.** I will not scratch randomly at the middle of the carpet for seemingly no reason at all. This makes me look like I am really not all there.
- **48.** I will not sneak into the freezer and build a nest in the bag of coffee beans (we found her after wondering why a cascade of beans feel out of the upright freezer when we opened it).
- **49.** I will not sniff a burning candle, get a burnt nose and then go back to sniff it again.
- **50.** I will not strangle myself on my leash, trying to run amok when I KNOW that I am leashed to the table. The table is not going to give way, unlike my neck.
- **51.** I will not take a flying leap off the second floor balcony (especially when my human is standing directly underneath). I will not then try to chew off the cast on my leg put on because of the fall.
- **52.** I will not try to attack the goldfish through the aquarium glass even if he is staring at me. I will also not then scream giving everyone around me a heart attack and then try to poop on the aquarium glass.
- **53.** I will not try to crawl into the furnace by lifting up the vent from the floor and going down the tubing. My human doesn't like to have to pay a furnace man to come and get me out.
- 54. I will not try to use my head as a doorstop.
- **55.** I will not war dance off the bed when first introduced to my human's mother. Although my mother seemed to enjoy the entertainment, I was afraid of him hurting himself. Thank God my bed is low to the ground.)
- 56. I will stop getting so excited that I war dance my head right into the side of coffee table.
- 57. I will try to remember my short legs do not allow me to jump high enough to get into the baby's swing and instead I bang my head on the underside of it.
- **58.** If I bury my nose in a dust pile I'm going to sneeze for a while. I don't need to go back and do it again once the sneezing ceases.
- **59.** Just because I can burn off the left side of the whiskers with a candle does not mean I must burn off the right side while checking the other candle.
- **60.** Just because the doors to the two superfun playlands (storage rooms- not fun for the humans trying to find the ferret) are high enough for me to sneak under, it does not mean that a giant stack of boxes and knickknacks and other goodies lies behind every white door and if I can't get under it the first time, it's not going to happen. Doors do not grow.
- **61.** No matter how yummy it smells, I should not try to climb inside the oven when my human opens the door, checking the doneness of whatever goody is inside. The oven is hot and will burn me.
- 62. Not every two-inch hole goes somewhere fun.
- 63. Since I have bad balance, I should stay away from high places. If want to get down, I should remember the way I came up. I will not whine when my human says I told you so after I miss the jump from the couch to the table.
- 64. The space inside the couch between the cloth stapled to the bottom and the wood frame is not a hidey-hole.
- 65. Water is a liquid. I will not try to grab a mouthful of water to eat in my hidey-hole. Also, I cannot ingest water through my paws.
- 66. When doing my war dance on the bed, I will watch for the ledge before I fall on my butt.
- 67. When I wig out and do the war dance, I won't bonk my head on the legs of the coffee table.
- **68.** When my human is cooking I do not need to climb up the counter drawers and singe my whiskers on the stove. Again she gets red and talks about the Sun River Bridge, got to be a vacation spot, wonder when we are going?

#### --- Other Critters ---

- 1. Cats are not chew toys, and kittens do not need to be hidden under the couch.
- 2. Cats don't like having their butts sniffed.
- **3.** Cat's tails are not toys.
- 4. Crawling under the cats and lifting them off their feet is not fun for the cats.
- 5. Every time a new ferret arrives, it is not necessary to drag him or her off to my hiding place.

- 6. Goldfish do not need to be chased and played with in there bowl.
- 7. Grabbing the male Siamese by his privates until he screams is not good even tough he can scream quite loud and high. I end up in time out.
- 8. I am not a vampire. I will not jump onto my sister's back and bite her on the neck.
- 9. I cannot "take on" a human/dog/cat no matter how persistent I am. They are much bigger than I am.
- **10.** I do need to slap the cat in the face with the piece of sliced ham before eating it.
- 11. I do not need to clean the cat's ears. She does it herself, and she is scared of me.
- 12. I do not need to follow the cats around attempting to bite off their balls, as the vet has already removed them. (Gergie will follow behind my cats and leap and chomp at their butts; it looks like she is attempting to castrate them!)
- 13. I do not need to lay on top of a kits head just because he is small making him struggle to get out from under me.
- 14. I do not need to suck on my sister's ear so hard that it turns purple.
- **15.** I may be a connoisseur of fine food, but the reef fish are not for sushi.
- **16.** I must not torment my human's dog in the middle of the night by letting myself out of my cage to go for a walk. My human has to get up and rescue that wimpy Alaskan Malamute because she is crying.
- 17. I shouldn't do the "hind-lick" maneuver on my brother or sister unless they're choking...or pretending to.
- **18.** I will leave the cat's and dog's food and water for them; I can drink and eat my own.
- **19.** I will make sure my brother is at least vaguely awake before pouncing on him.
- **20.** I will never again chase a live squeaking mouse through a swanky cocktail party my human caregivers are throwing for their boss and his wife on the occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary." (This is the Readers' Digest Condensed Version.)
- 21. I will not aggravate the dachshund into chasing me and then have my brother ambush him from behind the door. Two against one aren't fair odds.
- 22. I will not ambush the cat as he is walking by, for one of these days he might really nail me and my human say this is not W.W.F.
- 23. I will not attack the cat in an attempt to castrate him; that is a vet's job and I am not a vet.
- 24. I will not attack the net with a dead fish in it. He was medicated and probably not good for me.
- **25.** I will not attempt to attack my sister when she is in the Ferret Freeway.
- 26. I will not attempt to drag the long-haired cat who is visiting for a day, even if furry toys are my favourite.
- 27. I will not attempt to viciously tear out the throat of the new ferrets my humans got to keep me company. Furthermore, I will not approach their cage and give them kisses through the bars (so that my female human thinks I'm going to be nice and takes one of them out to try to introduce us) only to lash out at her, miss, and end up tearing Mom's finger open. My name is Dodger, not Jack The Ripper.
- 28. I will not be cute and play decoy while my siblings escape to create havoc elsewhere.
- **29.** I will not bite and latch onto the Golden Retriever's ankle, even if she is lying down. If I do bite her ankles, I will not hang on when my human tries to pick me up. I will not chew on her ankles, either.
- **30.** I will not bite the cat on the chin when he is sleeping.
- 31. I will not bite the dog on the peepee because he screams and flings me into the entertainment unit.
- **32.** I will not bite the kitten's tail when she's sleeping, chase her down the stairs causing her to run full speed into the plexiglass gate at the bottom in order to complete my elaborate scheme of breaking down the gate, allowing us more extensive exploration of my humans' cage.
- **33.** I will not chase and bite the dog until he jumps through the screened in porch.
- **34.** I will not chase and nip at the cat's heels.
- **35.** I will not chase the cat every time I see it.
- **36.** I will not chase the cats through the house just to go back and eat all their food.
- 37. I will not chase the new kitten down the stairs and into (hard) the plexiglass gate at the bottom meant to keep us in.
- **38.** I will not climb the cats when they are asleep and then attempt to ride them by biting their scruff. I'm not a stunt ferret and could get hurt when the cats toss me off in a frantic rodeo. (This was done by a 12-year-old rescue ferret!)
- **39.** I will not climb the dog.
- 40. I will not cling to the leg of the dog as this behavior causes him to fall down, get up, fall down, get up, fall down...
- 41. I will not drag my brother around by the scruff of his neck. This is not fun, even though I think it is.
- 42. I will not drag my brother, who is bigger than me, by the scruff of the neck behind the couch and put him in my hidey hole.
- **43.** I will not eat the cockatiels.
- 44. I will not grab my neighbor's sleeping cat by the scruff of the neck, drag it across the porch and drop it several feet off the side of the porch so I can watch it fall. This is apparently a very upsetting way to be awakened. (It was a small cat and a large, determined male ferret. It was also about 20 years ago.)
- 45. I will not have a stare-down with the cat when first introduced, only to lunge madly after her tail within seconds of her blinking.
- **46.** I will not hide under the old Border Collie's blanket, poke her with my nose and hide. She does not like to play "torpedo" and one of these days she might bite me.
- 47. I will not jump on the bunny's back just to see how high he can really jump.
- **48.** I will not leap off the arm of the chair and ambush the cat.
- **49.** I will not make friends with the dog just so I can bite her muzzle and be carried around the house hanging from her face as she tries to get a human to rescue her.
- 50. I will not pretend to be best friends with the cat and then all of a sudden decide to latch onto the side of my "friend's" face, just to

get a free ride around the yard.

- **51.** I will not provoke the kitten to chase me and try to follow me into spaces he won't fit. He doesn't like when he smacks his head trying to fit into these spaces.
- **52.** I will not ride the turtle and bite his head and feet when he tries to get away.
- 53. I will not round up my 6 sisters and gang up on the cat when he comes in to play with us.
- 54. I will not sleep in with the cockatoo, this is his cage and I'm not allowed to go in to it and hiss and growl when he wishes to come back in.
- 55. I will not sneak up on the Pit Bull dog and spray doodies in her face because she barked at me.
- 56. I will not steal the newborn kittens and put them in my hidey-hole. They are too small to play, with, and mama cat gets VERY angry at me.
- 57. I will not straddle the kitty and go flying down the hallway hanging onto his ear.
- 58. I will not take advantage of the fact that the dog is muzzled/friendly by chewing on her or trying to burrow into her eyes or ears.
- **59.** I will not teach the cat how to get into the couch. She couldn't figure out how to get back out and was meowing for hours until the humans got back home.
- 60. I will not teach the older, relatively potty-trained ferrets that there are other worlds to "conquer."
- 61. I will not tease the cat so much that he growls at me when I come near him. He is bigger than me and I could get hurt.
- **62.** I will not tease the dog by running under a couch at one end and exiting at the other, leaving the dog waiting for me at the point of entry.
- 63. I will not tease the dog through the bottom crack of the door. He may be dumber, but he is bigger.
- 64. I will not torment the cat even if it is really fun and he's a ditz.
- **65.** I will not torture the cats.
- **66.** I will not torture the local wildlife while I am out side, for no matter how large I think I am on the inside, the cows that live in the pasture will still step on me.
- 67. I will not try to be nursed by the cat. She is not my mother.
- **68.** I will not try to bite off the dog's nose. She is not a stuffed toy. (This is a true story that happened when the 90 pound dog was a six pound puppy and the ferrets thought she was a stuffed animal.)
- 69. I will not try to drag grandma's 140lb Rottweiler under the couch. He will not fit no matter how hard I try or which ear I grab.
- **70.** I will not try to drag the turtle by the rear foot into my hidey hole.
- 71. I will not try to help the dog clean his ears (he has BIG ears). This is painful for him as my little claws get caught in his hair and my human starts to scream when she see him coming down the hall with a ferret attached to his head.
- 72. I will not try to suckle on the lactating cat.
- 73. I will not urge my even fatter little brother to go through places I know he'll get stuck in.
- 74. I will not war dance on top of the couch, fall on the sleeping cat and attack him as if it were his fault.
- 75. I will share my hammock with my brothers, it is for all of us, I'm not a princess.
- 76. I will sit still while my sister is trying to clean my ears. She is just trying to help.
- 77. I will stop trying to shove the new kitten under the couch by the ear, and I will stop jumping on top of the Rottweiler puppy and riding him like a rodeo bull.
- **78.** It is an honor to be allowed free reign of the house during the day. I will not take advantage of this honor by using it to try and break into the guinea pig's cage.
- **79.** Just because the rabbit hates me doesn't mean I have to jump on top of it's cage and harrass it through the bars during my play time.
- **80.** My human's horses are bigger then me, I do not need to try and chase them, and when I am held for them to see me I should not bite them on the nose.
- 81. My human's mice are her pets and are not my mid-afternoon snack.
- 82. My nose is not glued to my sister's neck. I will not follow her around like this for half an hour just to annoy her and cause my human to wonder about my sanity.
- 83. My sister's stitches should be removed by the vet, not me.
- **84.** Not every strange dog wants to be my friend. Nipping at the nose of a 120-pound Rottweiler is probably a bad idea, at least on the first date.
- **85.** The cat likes his ears licked, not bit.
- 86. The dachshund is not an obese ferret and I should avoid nipping his tail, thus saving me the trouble of have to flee for my life.
- 87. The dog's bed is not my personal trampoline. The dog gets upset when I ricochet off her head.
- **88.** The fish do not want me in their tank with them.
- **89.** The fish don't like it when I try to climb into the aquarium with them.
- **90.** The guinea pig is not a chew toy.
- **91.** The new kitten is not ferret food and should not be stashed.
- **92.** The old cat doesn't like to play the same way I do. Getting batted on the head repeatedly and chased under the entertainment center is a natural expression of that fact.
- **93.** The seventy-five pound dog may be my best friend but she will not find me intimidating no matter how tough I try to act when we play. And though the big dog is my friend, she is not a ride. I must not ride the dog like a horse (and her ears are not a jungle gym to swing from, even if she lets me I am not a fashion accessory).

- 94. The snowflake Moray Eel is not friendly. He does not want to play with me, even though his gaping mouth and teeth seem to be smiling at me.
- 95. Though it may look like fun, I will not try to 'buck' the dog like a cowboy, we both get dizzy and bump our empty heads.
- 96. We will not bang on the weasel watcher gate incessantly causing the dog to become agitated and to pee on himself.
- **97.** We will not take over the drawer of the two ferrets staying with us for three weeks. It is their chest of drawers, and they sleep in it. We have three perfectly good sleeping boxes of our own.
- 98. When a new ferret comes I do not need to grab it and drag it off to eat later.
- **99.** When my sister screeches, I should leave her alone. When my fat little brother screeches, even though he's acting like a sissy, I shouldn't bite his head.
- 100. When we have pet company I need to share my toys instead of getting aggressive with them if they come near them.
- **101.** While I am aware that two ferrets attacking a Bichon Frise at the same time almost ensures a win, I must realize that one bite from a dog can be quite harmful to a ferret. And even though my sister likes playing decoy, it doesn't necessarily mean it's a good idea to let her while I pounce the dog from behind.
- **102.** While my sister can be annoying at times, I should not try to "off" her by pushing her off high surfaces at every available opportunity. This causes my human considerable pain as he leaps to try to save her life, and only gets me put in my cage as punishment.
- **103.** While the cat may be far less intelligent than I, this does not mean I should let her drive herself mad trying to swipe at me under the couch while I continually bite her paws as she tries. Yes, the cat should get smarter and learn to stop doing that, but it doesn't make it right on my part either.
- 104. While there are feathers in the pillows the feathers on the bird at Grandmother's need to stay on the bird.

### --- Vets, Illness and Medicine ---

- 1. Having my ears checked should not take 5 people, I will try to hold still next time.
- 2. I will not bite my human after she takes me for a check up with the vet because the exam table was cold and I didn't like it.
- 3. I will not bite the vet when he comes to visit the dog. I will not bite anyone else the first time that I am introduced to them.
- 4. I will not eat a rubber band which would then get stuck inside me causing me to get very ill and scaring my humans just 4 days before we were to leave for vacation. (Luckily the vet pressed on it and with lots of pedialite, ferrettone, and antibiotic (for her fever) she passed it and was strong enough to still go on the trip with us.)
- 5. I will not get stuck in any more vases so I have to go to the vet and be freed.
- 6. I will not make my liquid medicine into wall decorations by shaking my head when I am given it. They do not go with the rest of the decor.
- 7. I will not piddle on the veterinary technician while she is trying to take my temperature.
- 8. I will not poop on the vet's exam table while nobody is looking. (He had to go to the vet for diarrhea and decided to give him a sample of the perfectly normal stuff.)
- 9. I will not scream into the stereoscope when the vet is listening to my heart, I was not being hurt and it made him jump.
- **10.** I will not scream so loudly when the vet looks at my rear end that it scares the people in the waiting room. She has not done anything to me yet. Not to mention that it hurts my human's ears.
- 11. I will not steal a canister of raisin and eat till I get ill, then spend 3 days projectile vomiting raisins at my humans.
- 12. I will not steal a near full bottle of Amoxy-drop, tear off the top, drag it into the closet, and drink it so that my human is scrambling for the overdose information trying to calculate how much is on the floor, how much is in me, and how much is too much. I will also not poop pink for six hours afterwards. (Leave it to me to have a ferret who loves amoxicillin)
- **13.** I will not tinkle on the veterinarian just because it seems like the right thing to do.
- 14. I will not try to sniff the needle that I am going to get a shot with, it will poke my nose.
- 15. I will not wipe my mouth on my human's white shirt after I am given green liquid medicine.
- 16. I will refrain from climbing up my vet's leg or stealing her shoe while she's examining my sister. My vet likes me a lot.
- 17. I will take liquid antibiotics. I will refrain from making my human swallow them instead by shaking my head violently and with deadly aim. My human is allergic to them. I am not.
- 18. I will take pills, willingly and without drawing blood. I will never again chew them up and spit them out.
- **19.** When my human accidentally stands on my tail, I will not squeal so loudly that I startle her so that she jumps and break her foot again. (I have osteoporosis.)

## --- Contributors ---

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