

Bad (Cat) Human!

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--- Introduction ---

1. This is the reverse of the Bad Kitty List. That is, what would your cat(s) make *you* write on the chalkboard after committing a "crime"?
2. Note: "Master" is supposed to be a gender-neutral, politically correct term.
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4. Keeping you laughing since October 8, 1993. PDF file generated September 3, 2007. Last Update: December 10, 2007.

--- Comfort of the Master(s) ---

1. I will accept the fact that one of my Masters likes to sleep on my feet and will try not to move in my sleep. (I am perfecting the art of moving my leg just so, so that I can turn onto my side without disturbing Rocky.)
2. I will allow my Master out of the car to roam the parking lot while I run into the bank.
3. I will allow my Master the run of the house and to sleep on the bed.
4. I will allow my Master to lounge on my closet shelf on top of the cashmere sweater my mother gave me.
5. I will allow my Master to perch on my shoulders while driving.
6. I will be sure that my Masters are comfortable in bed, only then will I arrange myself around the available space.
7. I will chase away any noisy workmen from my side of the building so they don't scare my Master under the bed. If unsuccessful, I will return frequently to the bedroom, lie on the floor beside the bed and reassure my Master until the noise has stopped.
8. I will ensure any house we own has plenty of sunny windows for my Master.
9. I will ensure that the cat flap lock is not set to "out only" when I am about to go out to work, leaving my Master stranded on the back doorstep away from her kittens.
10. I will fold laundry on the sofa, so my Masters have a warm place to nap.
11. I will get up in the morning, turn on the heat and then place my Master on the top shelf of his kitty tree so that he may nap under the warm air blowing on him from the heat vent. (Gizmo has no claws and has a hard time getting up there. He has done it before but I started something and now he sits looking up at the tree until I put him up there. The tree is 2 feet taller than me!)
12. I will gladly roll onto my other side when my Master paws me on the cheek at 3:30 a.m. so she can "snuggle."
13. I will immediately stop playing on the computer and pick up and cuddle my Master when he comes into the den.
14. I will keep the window open at all times, summer or winter, for my Master to sit in.
15. I will let my Master sleep on my notes as I'm trying to study. (I'm sure I can read through the fur if I try hard enough!)
16. I will make sure the toilet bowl is always sparkly clean and freshly flushed, so my Masters always have freshest drinking water.
17. I will never close a door completely while the Masters are in the house.
18. I will never put Master Jeepers in a carrier, as that is what he was abandoned in the woods in and it upsets him greatly.
19. I will never shut a closet door without checking to be sure my Master is not lurking within, especially if I am leaving the apartment. All guests will be similarly instructed.
20. I will not chase my (white-furred) Master off of the black sweater drying in the laundry room.
21. I will not compete with my Master for pillow space (even if it is my pillow!).
22. I will not expect my Master to want to sleep in the basement every night. Just because I'm sick of him taking up all the room in my bed!
23. I will not go on vacation and leave my cat in a kennel.
24. I will not let the sheets of my bed touch my Master's head when it is time to go to bed.
25. I will not offend my Master's ears with loud music.
26. I will not shove my Master out of the middle of the bed.
27. I will not shut the Masters in the bedroom or (worse) the bathroom without their litter box and food and water for more than an hour after I have sprayed the living room for fleas.
28. I will not stop my Master from humping my leg when I'm trying to sleep. (Jinkies drove me bonkers doing this when I first got

him.)

29. I will not yell when I wake up to find one of my girlfriend's Masters lying on my feet at 4:30 a.m. (My boyfriend Matt was staying over, and Oliver has become comfortable enough with him that he'll sleep on Matt's side of the bed. Matt woke up to find 18 pounds of cat on his feet and started yelling, scaring me as well as both cats.)
30. I will pick my Master up the instant I walk in the door regardless of how full my arms are already or how short a time I've been gone (i.e. 30 seconds).
31. I will provide The Lap as often as my Masters wish.
32. I will remember that my Master and her friend use the car from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. I will attempt to ensure that the car is in the car port during this period for their sitting pleasure.
33. I will respect my Masters' right to treat the house as a luxury hotel with full room service or a fast food establishment, depending upon whim and the season, without complaint.
34. I will show my Master the gratitude I feel to her/him for revealing to me that my purpose in life is to be a cat bed.
35. I will shower my Master with affection and treats more than just 11 hours a day.
36. I will stand with the door open for unlimited amounts of time, so that my Master can become acclimated to the temperature outside before actually leaving the shelter of the house.
37. I will vacuum my Master the moment I turn on the little vacuum, and I will not scold him if he grabs it himself if I am being too slow.
38. If my Master chooses to behave like a Beany Baby, I will let her perch on my shoulder as long as she wants and put off trivial matters, such as getting ready for bed, until then.
39. If we have left the window with the broken screen partially open to let smoke out after the male cooks then we will make certain that at least one of us is in the room to watch it. If we fail to do this then we will ensure that any Master that gets out is sufficiently cuddled when rescued from the horrible outdoors. (We found Data on the air conditioner outside the window, Lux under the bushes, and Blue...well, we found her eventually.)
40. The Master is to always be allowed beneath the blankets.
41. We will allow the Master to sleep on our chests. We don't need to breathe that much.
42. When my Master is sitting on my shoulders, I will not incessantly change posture so that she has to move around to maintain her perch.
43. When my Master is sleeping on some portion of my anatomy, I will not disturb my Master by getting up to attend to such mundane matters as answering the telephone or going to the bathroom.

--- Destroying ---

1. I will admire the art of shredding the stereo speakers.
2. I will nod and say "that looks like that was fun to do" when we pull down the curtains and leave them in piles on the floor. If my sister can do that, I can.
3. I will not act so freaky and weird just because my Master shreds my script (and notes) at an ungodly hour and the play opens the next day. (Well technically that day: I was assistant stage manager too.)
4. No part of the house or piece of furniture is off limits to my Master. Any destructible possessions are to be kept out of sight and out of mind; they do not belong in a cat-run home anyway. My Master may not be held accountable, let alone (gasp!) scolded, for any oversight on my part in this regard.
5. If my Master wishes to leap from the treadmill to the top of the bookcase and knocks my china dolls off, I will *never* scream at him.
6. I will not reprimand my Master for clawing the furniture.
7. I will not scold my Master after he walks through the birthday cake.

--- Disrespect in General ---

8. I should never deprive my Master of his litter box for five hours or more by packing it in advance when moving, then putting my Master in a cat carrier and taking him in the car to his new home hours away--and expect him not to pee in the cat carrier, thoroughly soaking the gushy, pee-absorbing car seats. (Boy did I learn my lesson. It took 6 months to get the smell out of the car.)
9. I will always protect my Master's right to dark, quiet time under the bed, especially when loud children are visiting.
10. I will always stay with my Masters at the vet's office instead of dropping them off for shots, since they freak out and actually wet themselves if left behind without their slave.
11. I will always stop reading/watching and start petting when my Master lies down between my book and my face, or on the newspaper article I was reading, or lies on my chest between the TV and my face.
12. I will be mindful of slang meanings of phrases, and will not lovingly call my Master "pussy lips" in front of company.
13. I will be ready to play whenever my Master is.
14. I will get a teddy bear if I must have something to squeeze!
15. I will never ever take my Masters in the Engine of Destruction to the Bad Man in the clinic for Shots.
16. I will not blame my Masters for my farts.
17. I will not fart when my Master is under the bed covers.

18. I will not force my Master to come in from the back yard when he is winning a stare-down or growl-off with the neighbor's cat.
19. I will not fuss when my Master is patrolling the table, kitchen counter, or dresser for prey.
20. I will not go away for more than 24 hours without having someone stop by to adore and feed my Master.
21. I will not go on 2-week vacation leaving my Masters to the care of those Less Trained in our requirements.
22. I will not ignore my Master's signs to tell me when to start/stop petting, cuddling, playing, etc., no matter how subtle they are.
23. I will not ignore my Master. (Of course it's okay for cats to ignore humans).
24. I will not laugh at the sight of my Master's butt and tail when she is balancing on the edge of the bathroom washbasin to drink from it. I will admire the finely tuned sense of balance which allows her to get up and down without falling off.
25. I will not leap on the seesaw just as the cat crosses it.
26. I will not leave my Master for a completely unnecessary vacation and board my Master at the vet's.
27. I will not let my Master in/out "when I feel like it".
28. I will not lock my Master out of the cupboards with an elastic band around the knobs. I also will not coat said band with Tabasco sauce to keep my Master from chewing it so she can break in.
29. I will not pet my Master while she's taking her bath.
30. I will not place my *insignificant* belongings on the royal resting places (aka coffee tables, nightstands, and dressers), nor scold my Master when s/he pushes them off.
31. I will not pull my leg away while my Master is licking the water off after a shower, no matter how much it tickles.
32. I will not pull my Master out of the trash bin when she is busy inspecting its contents.
33. I will not push my Master from the kitchen counters or table.
34. I will not put my Master in a cat carrier--ever, for any reason whatsoever.
35. I will not report my Masters' outgrown juvenile behaviour, slight errors of judgement, minor lapses in taste, unfortunate mishaps and embarrassing accidents to the Bad Kitty List. If I succumb to the overwhelming temptation, I must make sure that I send all their suggestions about my own violations of Feline Rights to the Bad Human List to try to make amends for the loss of dignity, etc.
36. I will not rub my Master's fur the wrong way.
37. I will not scold my Master when he jumps onto my back (or anyone else's) while standing. I accept the fact that he is entitled to use me as a climbing tree.
38. I will not start the charcoal barbecue when my Master is taking a nap on the patio, especially when my Master is downwind.
39. I will not try to force my Masters to be nice to strangers that visit, nor will my Masters be scolded for hissing and spitting at said strangers, even if stranger's names are Mom and Dad.
40. I will not try to trim the fur between the pads of my Master's feet, especially when he complains about it.
41. I will not whistle just because it annoys my Master.
42. I will not yell at my Master when one or both attempt to/succeed in sneaking into my closet (the one place they're not allowed.)
43. I will not, under any circumstances, use baby talk when conversing with my Master. It is offensive to his intelligence.
44. I will open the bedroom door the moment my Master meows -- regardless if I'm hard of hearing.
45. I will refrain from singing as my Master does not appreciate fine talent. (Abby will wake from a deep sleep if I sing even one note. If I keep singing, she will come over and sniff my mouth. She does it with no one else.)
46. I will wear the hairs that my Masters have shed on my humble clothing with pride. They are honouring me by improving it.
47. I will stop cooking as soon as my Master demands to be brushed, even if I did brush him ten minutes ago (Each and every time I go into the kitchen to cook, Mozart demands to be brushed - he only does this when I cook, no matter what time of day or night!)
48. If my Master wishes to go outside while I'm on the computer, I will NOT wait until she decides to claw at my leg for attention, nor will I patronize her by saying "I'll let you out in a minute." She knows with me and the computer, a minute can easily turn into an hour, and it doesn't matter that she will spend an hour grooming herself on the porch once let out anyway. I will always let her out the first time she asks.
49. If I insist on holding my Master like a baby and singing "Rock a bye kitty on the treetop", I will get the shredding I so richly deserve.
50. My Master's name is Athena, not Theenie, Beanie, Beana, Theena, Little Meow, or Chibineko (Japanese for small cat). I should learn this.
51. My Master's name is Oliver, and he is not French, so I will not call him "cochon de lait" (French for "piglet").
52. We will not callously abandon our Masters to go on vacation, particularly when one of them is pregnant and we are not back until shortly before the kittens are due to be born. (Polly took one look at us and went straight into labour, even though she had a day or two left to go).
53. We will never make fat jokes about Madame Lily. She is svelte, and the paunch is our fault for having forced her to suffer the indignity of being fixed.
54. We will refrain from using Master Data as a pillow. We will also refrain from making comments about the size of Master Data's stomach. He is not fat. He is robust.
55. What is the Master's is the Master's. What is the human's is also the Master's. I will not forget this rule.
56. When I open the apartment door to take out the trash or do the laundry, I will allow my Master out to patrol the hall and will accompany him on his rounds to sniff at each neighbor's door for as long as he wants.
57. When I return home, I will not wait to take off my coat or neatly deposit parcels before getting down on the floor to pet my

Master, who is *always* there to greet me at the door.

58. When my Master gets onto my shoulders from the top of the refrigerator, I will take her to the otherwise inaccessible Forbidden Toy she is lusting after and not somewhere else.

--- Food/Water ---

1. All human meals are to be shared with my Master at *his* discretion. All guests will be expected to comply. The smart ones know the correct protocol by which his excellency need only swivel his head to accept morsels offered by two or more adoring slaves. Any fools who object or find this unappetizing are not to be invited back.
2. All used dishes, and the aluminum foil in which meat has been cooked, are to be offered to my Master to lick.
3. As our cat's supposedly obedient slaves, it is our duty to keep the royal highness's (the cat's) food bowl more than half full.
4. Attempting to hide catnip from my Master is useless, so I shouldn't bother.
5. I recognize that my Master is my personal taste tester.
6. I will allow my Master to express his desire to share his slaves' food at the table (not to mention actually giving him some!).
7. I will always give my Master the cantaloupe rinds to chew on.
8. I *will* feed my Master on demand. I will *feed* my Master on demand. I will feed my Master on *demand*.
9. I will feed my Master all he can gorge.
10. I will feed my Master before I feed myself.
11. I will immediately turn on any faucet my Master wishes to drink from, even though he has water bowls placed in every area of the house. Elderly cats do need to keep their kidneys flushed, after all.
12. I will let my Master sit on the table and have first pick of the food. I shall only have what is left over, and even then, only what is not wanted for later.
13. I will never again allow my parents to drop me off at school then drop my Master off at the vet -- even if everyone did come out to adore me.
14. I will never scold my Master for cleaning up road-kill. The Master is doing his civic duty to keep the streets clean.
15. I will not act surprised when my Master eats whatever is put in front of him, no matter how bizarre.
16. I will not allow the dry food bowl to become more than half empty.
17. I will not assume my Master doesn't like whatever is in the can I am opening.
18. I will not buy diet cat food.
19. I will not chase the Master from inside the refrigerator, until the Master has decided there is nothing he/she wants to eat.
20. I will not expect my Master to forgo attempts to steal my sushi--this is simply asking too much of a cat.
21. I will not get upset when the Master leaps into the middle of the dinner table while entertaining guests and family. Instead of scolding and removing the Master, I will praise him and tell everyone how cute he is.
22. I will not go to the restaurant and feed myself first before feeding my Master, especially since my Master can follow me and sit in the window and yowl while I eat, forcing me to ask the waitress "Who is that cat? Who does he belong to?"
23. I will not let the Masters in at 7 a.m. and forget to feed them right away. (Because of this the Masters bothered the sleeping human upstairs.)
24. I will not make my Master wait 12 long hours between meals.
25. I will not make rude comments when my Master picks up a mouthful of kibbles to take across the room to eat off the floor.
26. I will not move the food box when my Master figures out how to get to it and knock it down from the shelf.
27. I will not place treats on the hard-to-reach parts of my master's pleasingly plump (NOT fat) body to watch his contortions.
28. I will not pretend to be dead when my Master is trying to waken me for breakfast. She isn't fooled and will never quit pestering!
29. I will not push my Master away from my food.
30. I will not sneak up behind and scare my Master while he is drinking from the Big White Drinking Bowl.
31. I will not spike my Master's food with medicine.
32. I will not stand in front of the dishwasher unless I am ready to pass out the Master's treats kept on the counter.
33. I will not take the full, torn open can of Pounce from my Master when he took the time to get it from the kitchen, bring it into the living room and rip it open.
34. I will not tease my Master with imitation treats.
35. I will not tell men to stop sending flowers because the Master loves to eat them and pull them from the arrangement. It's not the Master's fault the vase tips over.
36. I will not use tuna fish to entice my Master into her carrier so I can lock her in it and take her to the vet. This is not playing fair.
37. I will not wake up and while still half-asleep, give my Master one of my thyroid pills instead of his feline urinary syndrome pills, then force my Master to drink salt water (according to the vet's instructions) until he vomits it up. (I was forgiven for this terrible sin, however as I was sitting in the chair feeling bad after doing this, my Master crawled in my lap and began to purr loudly.)
38. I will provide only the choicest morsels for the Master's bowl, not poultry scraps.
39. I will refill the water bowl no matter how many times my Master tips it over.
40. I will remember not to offer my Master smoked salmon. This is *not* a delicacy just because my previous Master liked it.
41. I will respect my Masters' right to participate in any barbecue or other al-fresco eating which happens in our yard.
42. I will search to the end of the leash to see if my Master is still outside before I leave for work and separate her from her precious food bowl all day.

43. I will share any can of tuna fish that is opened.
44. I will take the hint (whatever that may be) when my Master leaves a dead mouse in her food dish.
45. I will share the spicy bean dip with my Master.
46. If I accidentally pour too much kibble into the measuring cup, I will give it all to my Masters, rather than trying to put the excess back.
47. If I've decided to be sociable and sit in my human's lap and be petted, I should accept the fact that he might cough or burp or something, and not panic and shred his pants trying to escape the noise.
48. If my Master is to be left alone with a visitor who is asked to feed him, said guest will be instructed that if s/he opens a fresh can of cat food, my Master expects to be given the empty can to lick.
49. If my Masters have turned their dainty noses up at the food in their dishes all day, they are hardly going to eat it when thinly disguised with Delicat or other items. However, I accept that they reserve the right to enjoy it outside if they think it too good for the hedgehogs, seagulls, magpies, neighbours' cats and anyone else who visits.
50. It is unforgivable to leave temptation in my Master's path and expect him to resist. Pungent inedibles, such as steak fat or chicken bones, will be placed immediately inside the refrigerator, not left in an accessible container on the kitchen counter where he can smell them.
51. My Master is allowed to check my plate after I have eaten and, if there is anything good left on it, to eat/lick the plate clean.
52. My Master is allowed to confiscate, play with, and destroy my Richard Simmons Food Mover, because by going on a diet I am slowly depriving my Master of one of her favorite pillows.
53. My Master is not a piece of bread, so I will not dribble honey on her.
54. There must always be food in my Master's dish.
55. We will allow all plates that contained something without onions to be cleaned by the Masters. If the dish contained onions we will supply a dish of tuna as substitute.
56. While the Masters greatly appreciated the gift of catnip leaves, they are anxious to point out that one tiny leaf each is not enough to get stoned on. In the future I will make sure I bring home at least one good sized plant each.

--- High-Tech ---

1. I realize that my Master has the right to send e-mail messages to my Master's friends too.
2. I will admire my Master's tail if I am supplying a screen to back light it with.
3. I will always watch "Animal Planet" whenever there's a bird show on.
4. I will not answer the phone when I come home if I haven't fed my Master yet.
5. I will not assume my Master is done reading the newspaper just because s/he is no longer looking at it or just because I am done with that page.
6. I will not close the dishwasher door before my Master has exited.
7. I will not complain when my Master steps on the break key, or settles down on the computer keyboard.
8. I will not hook up the VCR when I am not supposed to and then blame it on my Master. For some reason, my mom has trouble believing that "Toby did it."
9. I will not scold my Master for opening the freezer door and eating the hot dogs.
10. I will not talk on the phone unless my Master gets a chance to say "hi".
11. I will not talk on the phone when my Master wants me stare at her and talk nicely to her.
12. I will not try to ignore my Master when she comes over to join my phone conversation, because since no one else is in the room, I must be talking to her. (Who would *really* be talking to a piece of plastic anyway?)
13. If I put a fun moving screen saver on the computer, I will not shoo my Master from the desk as he chases it.
14. It is far more important to entertain my Master with the mouse pointer on the monitor than it is for me to do my work.
15. My Master has every right to lie on the keyboard no matter how important my English paper is to my G.P.A.
16. The Master will never be called "stupid" for changing channels on the TV with the remote control, especially when it's during a crucial part of the program. It was a dumb movie, anyway.
17. We will continue to use the massager on Master Seymour any time that it is turned on. We will refrain from teasing him by turning it on just to get him to join us, and then turning it off without using it.

--- Human-Related

1. Family members must stay home as often as possible. At no time should the house be left empty in the evening.
2. I will allow my Master to awake me by clawing/chewing on my toes. It is for a good purpose; he needs me to slave for him.
3. I will not close the bathroom door thus separating myself, however momentarily, from my Master.
4. I will not expose my Master to my morning breath when she wakes me.
5. I will not invite any (scary) electricians or plumbers into the house.
6. I will not pull my Master out from under the bed to show to guests, who are obviously dangerous and must be hidden from.
7. I will not roll over on top of my Master while sleeping, even though she is curled up against my back while I am on my side.
8. I will not scold my Master when he leaps for the ceiling fan and bounces on me at 2 a.m.
9. I will not scream in pain when my Master tries to rip my hoop earrings out of my multiply-pierced ears; I realize that they are pretty shiny things and I have many; my Master only wants a few for himself.

10. I will not stand under the tree, crying up it "Momma loves you, come to Momma!" The neighbors think I'm strange and it embarrasses his lordship Sir Merlin. I will also not attempt solo rescues when I know darn well that I am terrified of heights and then there's a cat AND a human stuck halfway up the tree. (The neighbors really loved that one)
11. I will not stop my Master from nuzzling all the gentlemen visitors in their armpits.
12. I will not threaten my girlfriend's Masters with extreme violence when one of them bites her.
13. I will remember that I am a big, clumsy human oaf and that my young Masters are three pound tabby kittens who blend well with the furnishings. Perhaps their white gloves are there for a reason so I am only to blame when I tread on someone's paw.
14. I will respond faster to The Stare Of Hunger or of Opening the Door more quickly.
15. My head does indeed make an acceptable perch for my Master to look out the window.
16. My human's teacher is evil. My Master had every right to attack her. (No joke--my art teacher lives across the street and was planting catnip. Luckily she found it funny).
17. My Master does not think it is funny when sticky-chinned children give him kisses.
18. My Master is a creature of dignity. I will not feed him catnip in front of guests and/or videotape him afterwards.
19. My Master is not a golden Buddha statue. Therefore, when she is sleeping or grooming in a highly accessible spot, it is NOT necessary to touch her for good luck every time I walk by.
20. Should any of the Masters choose to show their affection by cleaning our skin, we will refrain from gripping their tongues and not letting go until they have decided that our skin is not worthy of their cleaning.
21. Should we choose to take a bath, we will allow the Masters into the bathroom. We will refrain from closing the bathroom door to keep the ferret out. Instead we should cage the ferret so that the Masters may continue to observe our bath.

--- Loss of Dignity ---

1. I will *not* flush the drinking bowl when my Master is having a drink! (Stormy practically hit the ceiling and looked SO offended as I laughed my head off.)
2. I will ensure that my Master does not have an audience when giving birth to her first kittens. Her slaves and her own mother are acceptable, but not the neighbours (or neighbours' cat). I will not be fast asleep when the Great Event begins so that I have to be roused to watch in wonder and eject any unwelcome intruders.
3. I will gladly stop whatever I'm doing to go outside to rescue my Master when he gets his leash so wrapped up around things that he can't move.
4. I will let my Master in the house to do his business, as I fully understand that there may be onlookers outside.
5. I will make sure my Master is not wrapped up in the covers BEFORE I snap the covers off the bed and send my Master flying across the bedroom. If I do hurl my Master across the room, I will not, under ANY circumstances, laugh.
6. I will not apply the following undignified nicknames to my Master: Bulge Boy, Mr. Chubb, Mr. Big, Blimpy, Hellraiser, Pest-Kitty, Food Vacuum, Oink, Menace to Society.
7. I will not brush my Master when he jumps up on my lap just to be petted.
8. I will not chase my Master around the house while screaming "HERE KITTY KITTY" and expect her to come.
9. I will not chase my Master with the awful noisy vacuum cleaner.
10. I will not climb/jump on the waterbed when my Master is on it, then laugh when she gives me the How-Dare-You look.
11. I will not clip my Master's claws, which he has spent much time sharpening to razor-edged perfection.
12. I will not comment on the size of my Master's behind. It is insignificant compared with my own.
13. I will not confine my Master while in the car by putting his seatbelt on.
14. I will not dye my Master colors in lieu of buying colored baby chickens for my children at Easter.
15. I will not give my Master a mohawk, no matter how cool I think it looks.
16. I will not give my Master the bum's rush when she is trying to supervise me as I work at the kitchen counter.
17. I will not highlight my Master's nose and ears in fashionable neon colors.
18. I will not inundate my Master with stinky toothpaste/mouthwash breath after cleaning my teeth.
19. I will not laugh (hysterically or otherwise) when my Masters do any of the following: get stuck upside down in the corner behind the beanbag chair (hey, I fished him out); jump two feet vertically at the slightest noise; flip a cardboard box over on himself then walk it around the floor.
20. I will not laugh at my Master if he gets confused when a meow sound comes from the computer.
21. I will not laugh at my Master when he stalks, pounces on, and swats the vacuum cleaner.
22. I will not laugh at the Master when she miscalculates and falls off the coffee table/couch/etc.
23. I will not laugh at the sight of my somewhat overweight Master squeezing herself through the cat flap.
24. I will not laugh when my Master chases her tail.
25. I will not laugh when my Master falls off the counter or washing machine. I acknowledge that my Master was simply testing gravity and landing skills and meant to do that.
26. I will not leave shopping bags with handles for the Masters to inspect. I know they are curious and will climb into them. (The sneaky handles creep up their legs, then when they wish to leave the bag, it chases them around the house, beating them about the body and head with horrifying rattles and crackles, scaring all the other cats into frenzies and the poor trapped cat often wets him/her self in terror.)
27. I will not make fun of my Master's weight.

28. I will not make my Master come on vacation with us and then force her into a harness and lead and take her out wearing them.
29. I will not move my Master no matter where she decides to sleep.
30. I will not play "spin the kitty" on the hardwood floors just to watch my Master try to walk afterwards.
31. I will not put a harness and leash on my Master when he goes outside.
32. I will not put a leash on my Master. It should be vice-versa.
33. I will not put three drops of milk in the bottom of the glass and laugh at the Master when he gets his head stuck.
34. I will not ridicule my Master after he runs into the sliding glass door, as I know he meant to do this.
35. I will not stick my finger in Master's mouth when she yawns.
36. I will not suddenly move my blanket covered foot as my Master passes, just to see him go vertical.
37. I will not surprise my Master by kissing her while she is sleeping.
38. I will not time my Master while she is taking a whiz.
39. I will not turn on the water when my Master is napping in the sink.
40. I will not weigh my Master.
41. I will refrain from flipping my Master onto her back for the purpose of cleaning the goopies out of her eyes, no matter how uncomfortable and unattractive it looks.
42. I will stop teasing the Masters by singing Dr. Demento songs about cats.
43. If I really, really *must* dislodge my sleeping Master from my lap (permissible only under the most extreme conditions, e.g., because I am about to wet my pants or have lost all feeling in my legs), I will never DUMP him off, instead I will wake him gently, and offer him treats as an inducement to move on his own volition.
44. If my Master accidentally steps on the treadmill while I am using it, I will **not** laugh at him when he shoots across the room.
45. My human will not embarrass me by taking/showing pictures of me with my teddy bear. (My HUGE cat adopted his own child sized teddy bear and would carry it all through the house including up and down the stairs. I never did figure out how he carried it up the stairs, but he did.)
46. My Master must test all beauty products--however this does not mean he wants a bath.
47. No matter how cute I think it is, I will not put fabric antlers on my Masters, take a picture of them and send it out as a Christmas card.
48. We will not cause alarm by modelling our masks for a performance of the Rossini Cat Duet in front of our Masters.
49. When my Master is enjoying himself in the bush, I will not entice him with the Cat Dancer toy, only to snatch him and haul him inside.

--- Mess Making ---

1. I will not complain because the Master does not like towels or clothing hanging anywhere. The Master has taught me that everything belongs on the floor.
2. I will not complain or scold the Master because the new roll of toilet paper is half unraveled on the floor and what's left on the roll looks like Swiss cheese.
3. I will not complain when the Master decides to vomit in the center of the carpet five minutes before guests arrive.
4. I will not scold or banish the Master to another room because the Master played with the ice cubes in the guest's drinks and spilled the entire contents on the carpet.
5. I will not scold the Master for opening all the Christmas gifts under the tree before Christmas. Neither will I scold the Master for liking my human's mother's gift the best and depositing hair over its entire surface. It's not the Master's fault she's allergic to the Master.

--- Miscellaneous ---

1. I cannot be expected to flea powder the "usual sleeping places" (as per instructions on the can) as that would mean dusting the entire house.
2. I will allow my Master to chew on my hand when he so chooses.
3. I will always call my Masters to the family room when there is a program about cats on, so they can decide to watch it or not.
4. I will be thankful every day of my life that my Masters deign to live with me, and that I please them enough to elicit The Purr.
5. I will become more psychic so when my Master meows incessantly for no reason, I will know what it is and not be reduced to shouting, "WHAT?!?!"
6. I will find a way to turn off the thunder so my Master will not be frightened.
7. I will get up every morning at 6 a.m. (or earlier) and go to bed as early as possible.
8. I will learn that ALL trees are for climbing by the Master, including the Christmas tree.
9. I will leave the potting soil where it belongs -- on the floor.
10. I will leave the toilet seat up so my Master can investigate.
11. I will not go to work and leave the Masters alone all day.
12. I will not introduce my Master to my human's horse, as my Master might think him a threat and start a brawl (which he won).
13. I will not rush at my Master when she is concentrating on balancing on the inch-wide balcony rail 25 feet in the air to see how the dog and I react.
14. I will not scold my Master when he bites for no reason.

15. I will not waste money on a huge house. All that is needed is a big bedroom for the Cat(s) and a kitchen.
16. I will sharpen my psychic skills so that I can read my Master's mind, no matter how feeble it may be.
17. I will take thousands of pictures of my Masters, and show them to everyone I ever meet.
18. I will wake up and let my Master outside the instant the sun comes up, and let him stay there as late as he wants (regardless of the coyotes).
19. I will watch where I put my big feet.
20. It's not the Master's fault the screen prevents the Master from catching the bird flying by.
21. It is a great privilege to pay the rent and all the utility bills on my Master's apartment, and I am SO happy that my Master allows me to live here, feed her, buy her things, act as her favorite cushion, and be her slave.
22. My Master must always be allowed to kill the sheets while I am making the bed.
23. The Master shall be allowed to always bring friends in to play. This includes mice, birds, rabbits, squirrels, lizards and snakes. And when the Master's friend the 3-foot long black snake decides to nap in the waterbed, I will not call the Master bad names and not allow him outside to play for a week.
24. There are no bad kitties, only bad humans. There are no bad kitties, only bad humans. There are no bad kitties...

--- Noise ---

1. I will not get angry with the Master when his friends visit at 3:00 a.m. for choir practice.
2. I will not get so loud watching sporting events that the Masters hide under the bed and refuse to come out until hours after the game is over.
3. If you hang up wind chimes, then the Master will be sure they will always ring, even without wind present.

--- Other Critters ---

1. I will always throw water on the neighbor's cat if said cat is winning a stare-down or growl-off with my Master.
2. I will assist my Master in chasing unwanted cats from the garden and house. But I will respect her right to invite her friends in.
3. I will graciously accept the wildlife offerings from my Master.
4. I will let my Master play with mice she has cleverly bought into the house to torture to death.
5. I will let the kitties play with the hamster.
6. I will never pet other Masters with the affection that I show when I pet my own.
7. I will not come home smelling of other cats or (even worse!) dogs.
8. I will not de-flea my sister's new Master in my Master's bathroom and expect my Master to forgive me right away.
9. I will not do a dog impression in front of my Masters. (It's a long story, to do with incompetent mail delivery operatives and unhelpful people in Customer Services. Anyway, when the mailman rang our doorbell yesterday, I did a dog impression, growling and barking, which upset Polly.)
10. I will not fraternize with other cats.
11. I will not interfere with my Master's perfectly normal attempts to assert his dominance by biting his brother.
12. I will praise my Masters when they bring in live hummingbirds or mice to toy with, instead of locking us in the bathroom while I catch and release the Prey.
13. I will stop attempting to make my Masters get along. Master Jeepers must attack Master Jinkies daily.
14. My Master will be allowed to hide live mice inside the company's diaper bag.
15. We will get rid of the ferret pest. It serves no purpose, as it is too large to eat, and it is an annoyance when we try to sleep. (Data disagrees on this one, as the ferret is his best friend and playmate.)
16. We will not play those CDs with the saxophone when our Masters are in the house. The wailing bits sound too like a kitty in distress for comfort and upsets them. (It was a double CD set called "Mnemosyne" with the Hilliard Ensemble and Jan Garbarek on saxophone. I like either separately but am not always convinced of the merits of the two together...)

--- Politically Correct ---

1. My Master does not barf hairballs, he is a floor/rug redecorator.
2. My Master does not break things, she helps gravity do its job.
3. My Master does not fear dogs, they are merely sprint practice tools.
4. My Master does not gobble, she eats with alacrity.
5. My Master does not scratch, he is a furniture/rug/skin ventilator.
6. My Master does not yowl, he is singing off-key.
7. My Master is not a "shedding machine", she is a hair relocation stylist.
8. My Master is not a "treat-seeking missile", she enjoys the proximity of food.
9. My Master is not a bed hog, he is a mattress appreciator.
10. My Master is not a chatterbox, she is advising me on what to do next.
11. My Master is not a dope addict, she is catnip appreciative.
12. My Master is not a lap fungus, he is bed selective.
13. My Master is not a pest, she is attention deprived.
14. My Master is not a psycho, she is only a very creative genius.

15. My Master is not a ruthless hunter, she is a wildlife control expert.
16. My Master is not evil, she is badness enhanced.
17. My Master is not fat, he is mass enhanced.
18. My Master is not hydrophobic, she has an inability to appreciate moisture.
19. My Master is not lazy, he is motivationally challenged.
20. My Master is not stupid, he is waiting for his slave(s) to figure it out for him.
21. My Master is not underfoot, she is shepherding me to my next destination (the food dish!).

--- Sanitation ---

1. I will change my Masters' litter box at the first sign of stink, not when they have to get the point across by whizzing on the comforter.
2. I will keep the Master's litter box as clean (or cleaner than) the human's bathroom.
3. I will never, under any circumstances, give the Masters baths. They are capable of doing that themselves, and there are many products that will get rid of fleas without necessitating my bathing the Masters.
4. I will not move my hand while my Master is busy washing it.
5. I will not say "Ewwwww gross" when my Master sneezes and then licks the snot off her fur.
6. I will not stare at my Master while she is doing her business, however, the Master is permitted to stare at the human in various states of undress and/or physical activity.
7. I will not subject the Master to a bath after he plays in garbage cans.
8. I will scoop the litter box at least every other day, since clean litter is the best to poop in.
9. It is not the Master's fault he couldn't make it to the litter box and peed on the IRS tax return.

--- Toys/Playing ---

1. Although I have given my Master many beautiful toys, I will understand that it is often more fun for him if I play, too, and I will not allow my own trivial activities to interfere. I will devote my full attention to his wishes, and not try to also do other things at the same time. Nor will I take offense when my Master ignores the beautiful toys I have bought for him in favor of the plastic and cardboard wrapping they came in, pieces of string, or crumpled-up tea bag wrappers.
2. I will get an ice cube and throw it on the floor whenever my Master requests one.
3. I will leave the lingerie drawer open so that my Master may strew my undies around the apartment for his amusement.
4. I will let my Master chase my highlighter as I'm trying to highlight texts.
5. I will let my Master play with the fat rubber bands; once he has chewed through them, I will throw them away and replace them with new ones.
6. I will not become cross with my Master when he attacks my feet through the covers in the middle of the night.
7. I will not buy lots of expensive, useless toys when the ring off a gallon of milk is perfectly fine entertainment.
8. I will not complain when my Master decides that the jigsaw puzzle pieces should be on the floor.
9. I will not eradicate fruit flies and other such live entertainment from my Masters' home, even if my Masters insist on playing with them at 2 a.m.
10. I will not leave blown up balloons for the Masters to play with, since they tend to explode and scare us.
11. I will not lure my Master from his chair with a toy so I can sit in it.
12. I will not pretend to throw my Master's toy and then hide it behind my back while my Master runs off looking for it.
13. I will not seize my Master's (current) favourite toy just because she is playing with it under the bed at 4 a.m.
14. I will not take away the brand new cupcake papers from my Master, especially since he went to all the trouble to get on the kitchen table so he could have a new toy. (Even if he does have 15 toys of assorted colors shapes and sizes.)
15. I will not throw out the nightly bit of dental floss without first allowing my Master to play with it for at least 5 minutes.
16. I will periodically purchase more rabbit-fur covered "mice", even though my Masters will probably kick them under the washer in about 9.4 seconds.
17. I will retrieve all the foil balls and toys from under the sofa and refrigerator each and every day.
18. I will supply my Master with toys and will not begrudge him if he decides to find some new ones on his own.
19. I will turn off the computer and play with my Master when he attacks my behind through the chair.
20. My Master will always have first chance at banana stems. Furthermore, I will not pick them up off the floor and throw them away until she is sufficiently tired of playing with them.
21. When my Master attacks and kills the fur trim from the hood of my down coat, I will not complain; he is a natural born hunter.
22. When my Master drags one of his favorite toys into the bedroom at 2 a.m. and cries for me to play with him, I will leap out of bed without delay and comply. When he sits high atop the microwave with his front legs dangling from the edge and repeatedly says "Er?", I will stop whatever I am doing at once and do what he wants: toss crumpled-up tea bag wrappers up to him to swat with his paw.

--- Vets/Medicine ---

1. I will not crumble the cat's medicine and mix in the cats food. The cat is smarter than me.

Many thanks to the following contributors:

Kathleen Aberham, Jennifer Accettola, Laura Allender, Merrie Bergmann, Angie Bimonte, Becky Birchmeier, John Blaser, Caitlin Brome, Tamzin Cater, Susan Clark, Stephanie Corbitt, Patricia Cryan, Wendy Dakin, Bob DeHaney, Ruth Desjardins, Meghan Donovan, Phippen Ferrari, Renae Fraser, Nancy Gartner, Erinne Goodell, Lisa Grant, Anthea Fraser Gupta, Sarah Helgeson, Petra Hinds, Caroline Jack, Alex Johnson, Helen Kennedy, Michelle Kieger, Karen Kolling, Melissa LaMont, Sarah Lansing, Mesa Lloyd, Lisa Loeffler, Sonny Marcum, William McDuff, Kathryn McGuinness, David Merriman, Printha Merritt, Nancy Milligan, Kathy Mincozzi, Heidi Mireau, Christopher Palma, Devera Pine, Amanda Pinnow, Alison Reddick, Harold Reynolds, Sean & Nicole Roberts, Rowena Robinson, Lori Scarlett, Amy Scheeler, Karen Schlosberg, Jane Shaw, Chey Siyna, Paul Ste. Marie, Mary Grace Stillwaggon, Missy Sturtevant, Bruce Tobias, Connie Varnhagen, Stephanie Wagner, Jenny Wohlford, Bonita Wooten, Geoff Wrigg, Shari.