

## A Little Bait Goes a Long Way

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To increase your chances of luring every cat, use bait with a strong smell, like tuna or sardines packed in oil. Place about 1 tablespoon of bait at the very back of the trap so that the cat has to step on the trigger plate while she's trying to reach her snack. You can put the food directly on the newspaper trap liner, or in some kind of container—just make sure there aren't any sharp edges. Put a tiny bit of food (about ½ teaspoon) at the front of the trap to get the cats interested, and then drizzle a trail of juice all the way to the back of the trap. Don't use more food than this—cats need relatively empty tummies before surgery. Try these baits that cats find irresistible:

- Jarred baby food (no onions!)
- Catnip
- Boil Valerian Root in water and douse the trap in the fragrant broth.
- Instead of canned tuna in oil, try mackerel, canned cat food, sardines, anchovies, or cooked chicken (KFC works great!).

## Tips and Tricks for the Trap Savvy Cat!

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- Train the cat to eat in the trap: leave the trap fully open for several days and feed the cat in the fully open trap. This can be done by tying off the trap door and leaving it in the permanently open position, or flipping the trap upside-down (depending on the trap). Let the cat eat and come and go freely so that he gets used to going in and out of the trap. Then when ready, trap for real.
- Note that during the non-set period, remove the back door completely (if it has one), (1) so accidents don't happen and the cat gets caught when the trap isn't being monitored, and (2) so no one can steal a completely an immediately operable trap.
- Some catnip in the trap during the unset period adds to the attraction!
- Place food progressively closer and closer to the trap. After each successful feeding, move the food a few inches closer the trap, eventually just inside the door (but in front of the trip mechanism). When you are ready to trap for real, place food far inside as usual.