



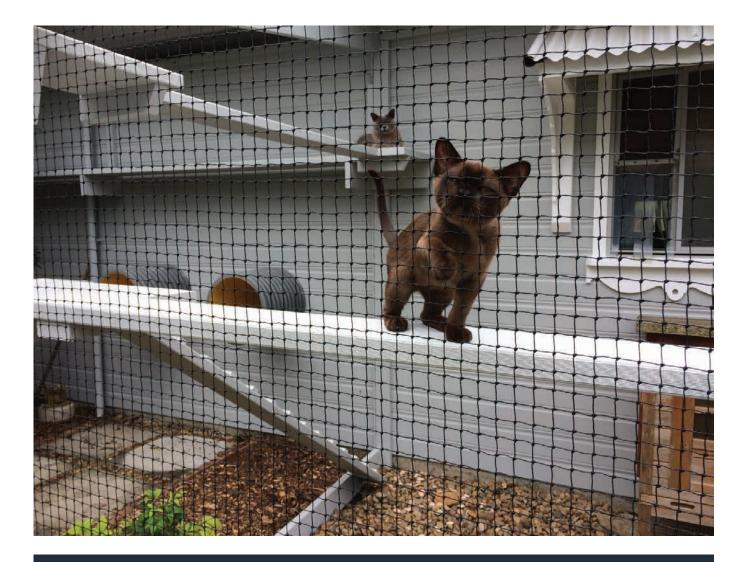
www.catnets.com.au www.catnets.co.nz www.catnetting.com www.catnets.co.uk

The worlds leading Cat netting is now available in the USA

# **Catnets DIY How To Guide**



A well designed Cat Enclosure can help meet your Cats physical and emotional needs, whilst offering a safe haven from disease, wildlife, traffic and neighbours.



Cat-management by-laws have been introduced to help minimise the impact of roaming Cats. Compulsory curfews, along with fine for fourling public places, have increased the demand for safe & stimulating outdoor Cat areas.

Create a safe and secure outdoor area for your cat(s). Ensure you are complying with any relevant laws. Create a mentally & physically stimulating space.

# **Types of Enclosure**

Containing your cat using netting is a safe, affordable and unobtrusive option. The first step is to decide on what type of enclosure you wish to create. This decision will be affected by your budget, your property restraints, your level of DIY capabilities and if you are renting or owning. The 2 most common types of Cat Netting Enclosures include:

## Attached to existing structures



This type of enclosure can take many forms. Generally speaking, one specific area of your property is designated to create an outdoor cat area. Common installations incorporate:

- C The side alley of the house
- C Balcony, deck or pergola

This type of installation allows you to create large, open spaces at reasonable prices.



## **Fenceline Enclosure**



This type of enclosure involves extending an existing fence upwards & inwards. This helps to create an enclosed yard perimeter. This type of enclosure creates very large open spaces, and is an unobtrusive way of keeping your cat contained safely in your yard.



# Our netting...



## Why we use and recommend netting

- C From \$0.30c per square foot, cat netting allows you to enclose large spaces without breaking the budget.
- C Netting is very easy to work with, and doesn't require any specialized tools or welding.
- C There are no sharp edges, rusting and it won't get hot in summer.
- C Our unobtrusive <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Low-Vis netting is barely noticeable once it is up.
- C Catnets dispatches well over 1000 DIY kits per year.

## **Catnets netting**

- C Catnets is the chosen wholesale supplier for over 30 Cat Netting resellers & installers across Australia, NZ, Singapore & USA.
- C Our ¾" Low-Vis netting is available in both Black or Stone to further help customize your enclosure.
- C Our netting is UV Treated for continued outdoor usage.
- C It is pre-stretched to avoid sagging, and features heat strengthened knots to avoid knot slipping.
- C Is made of High Density Polyethylene, and will not frey or unravel when cut to size.

## **UV Results**

UV degradation is one of the most crucial aspects of a nets long term performance. As Australia's leading Cat Netting supplier, we have commissioned a UV test on our Low-Vis ¾" Black Netting. We are proud to bring you those results, offering you peace of mind that you are investing in a product designed to last many years in the harsh Sun. The UV test subjected the netting to dew, rain, extreme temperatures, UV light and humidity.

Testing Method: QUV ACCELERATED WEATHERING TESTER IS 16008:Part2

### **Results:**

- 3 years Equivalent to permanent outdoor Exposure: 98% Strength maintained
- 5 years Equivalent to permanent outdoor Exposure: 96% Strength maintained
- 10 years Equivalent to permanent outdoor Exposure: 93% Strength maintained

#### Notes on UV testing:

The QUV accelerated weathering tester reproduces the damage caused by sunlight, rain and dew. In a short period of time, the QUV UV tester can reproduce the damage that occurs over months or years outdoors. To simulate outdoor weathering, the QUV accelerated tester exposes materials to alternating cycles of UV light and moisture at controlled, elevated temperatures. It simulates the effects of sunlight using special fluorescent UV lamps. It simulates dew and rain with condensing humidity and/or water spray. With thousands of testers in use worldwide, it is the world's most widely used weathering tester. UV light is responsible for almost all photodegradation of durable materials exposed outdoors. The QUV tester's fluorescent lamps simulate the critical short-wave UV and realistically reproduce the physical property damage caused by sunlight.

# Planning and installing a FIXED enclosure

This booklet is designed as a guide only. Alternative installation methods and/or materials may be required for your individual enclosure. Upon completion of your cat netting enclosure, Catnets recommends monitoring your cat(s) within the enclosure for a period of time to assess overall behavior. We also recommend consulting with neighbours and or council regulations prior to constructing your enclosure.



Considering a D.I.Y. installation? View our D.I.Y. enclosure videos to see just how easy and affordable it can be!

Click here to go to the video

# Planning

Your first step is to decide on the area you wish to enclose. Considerations when deciding on an appropriate space include the size of the area, means of access, weather conditions (sunlight / shelter / snow) etc and aesthetic influences.

The websites image gallery along with our FACEBOOK page (*with over 1000 images and videos*), is a great resource for you to observe how similar DIY projects were completed successfully.

## What to order?

The first step in ordering is to measure the area you wish to cover with netting. For example, if you plan on enclosing a verandah, you should note down the height of the verandah and the total length of netting you will need to enclose completely. Similary, if you are enclosing a side alley or perimeter fence, you will need to take note of the required width and length of the run.

Note the available widths of our netting. We generally carry 3'10", 5'10", 9'10" and 16ft wide netting rolls. These are the fixed widths, and you simply need to calculate how many foot of "length" you need off each one. You can then cut the nets to fit your exact requirements. The netting will not frey or unravel whatsoever when cut to size.

C Our LOW-VIS <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" netting is our most popular netting. It is made of a thin net twine and as a result is barely noticeable once installed. It gains its strength from having a small <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" mesh size. The Low-Vis netting is used in most professionally built enclosures, and accounts for 90% of all cat enclosure netting used.

A revolutionary advance in cat enclosure netting, CATNET premium is an advanced "blend" of netting and c stainless steel. Whilst still maintaining the many advantages of working with a netting product, Catnet

Premium ensures added strength and durability. Although not specifically required for day to day residential enclosures, this unique "one of a kind" product is a premium option for high traffic & commercial enclosures.

## **Attachments & Accessories**

The following section outlines some of the specific methods used in attaching Cat Netting to your property, covering the process of building a permanent outdoor space using existing structures.

The netting can be attached via several different methods, depending on the type of surface involved.

## Attaching to timber with U-Nails

These galvanised nails are used to attach netting to timber surfaces. It is a simple, effective and affordable option for timber surfaces.

Before attaching, Catnets recommends "edging" your net beforehand with black rope. Edging is very simple, and involves weaving our 1/5" (5mm) Edging Rope through the edge of the netting to create a rope seam. The U-Nails are then placed over the rope and net together, and hammered into position.

U-Nails should be spaced at 10" intervals when used in conjunction with the black edging rope.

#### Attaching to timber with U-Nails Video





The Black Rope is weaved through the edge of the netting, and then U-Nailed into position.

# Attaching to hard Surfaces / WIRE ROPE METHOD (brick, concrete, metal etc)

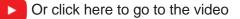
This method gives an extremely professional finish, and is the most commonly utilised method for cat enclosure netting installations. This method involves the installation of a tensioned wire rope, which is installed as a framework for net hanging. The netting is then attached to the wire using our NET-CLIPS or cable ties.

### STEP 1:

Eyelets are installed along the run spaced at a minimum of 1 per metre:

- C Screw Eyelets for timber
- C Dynabolt Eyelets for Brick, Concrete etc
- C Multisurface Eyelets for metal fences and guttering etc
- C Bolts Eyelets for brackets or fences



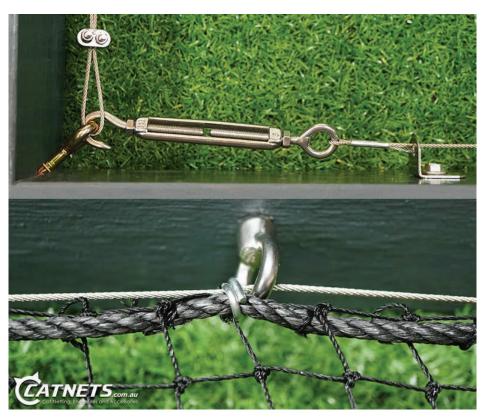


### STEP 2:

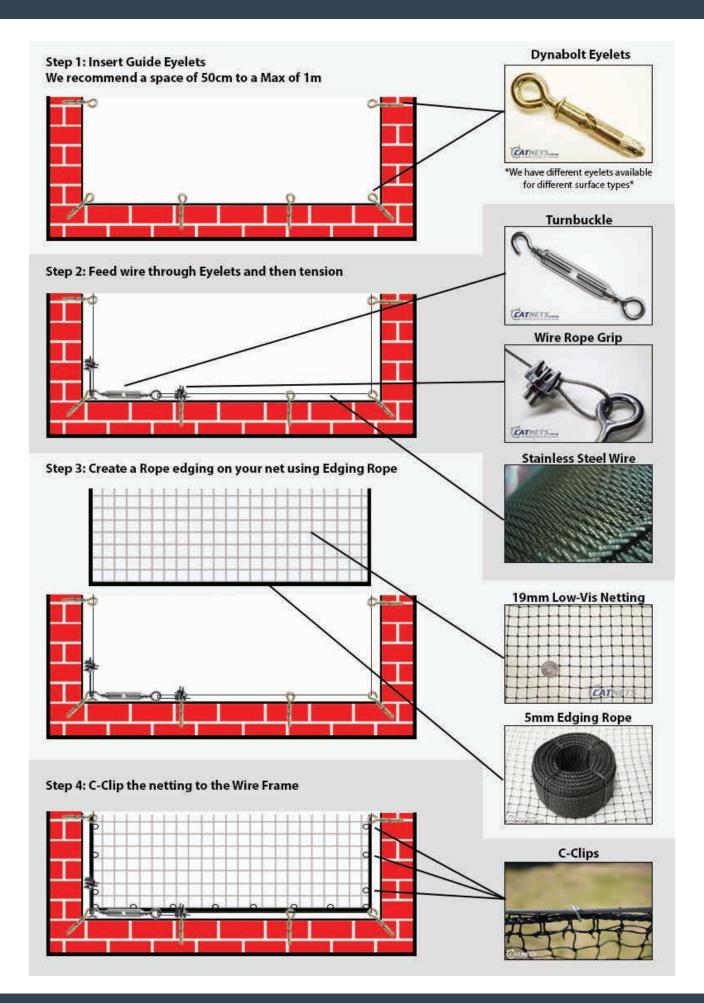
The wire rope is then fed through the eyelets, and secured at one end using a Wire Rope Grip. At the other end, the wire rope is attached to a "turnbuckle" using the same method, and tightened. You should now be left with a taught wire rope framework. Up to 10m can be tensioned using 1 turnbuckle.

## STEP 3:

Once the wire is tensioned, you can then simply attach the netting to the wire using our c-clips or cable ties. For best results, FOLD the last 2 meshes of your netting over before attaching. This gives you some added strength at the edge. Black Edging Rope can also be used to "edge" the netting before attaching to the wire.



#### Attaching to hard surfaces Video



## **Installing Fence Brackets for:**

#### **c** Fenceline Enclosures

#### **c** Raising the height of a fence for a side-alley enclosure

Installation of these brackets will be dependent on the type of fencing. They can be attached to most types of fences including timber and colorbond. For installation of fence brackets we recommend the consultation of a handyman or helpful friend or relative (to ensure the brackets are installed safely and securely.

We currently supply a sleek, affordable and strong Steel fence bracket. We have designed the brackets in black to compliment the Low -Vis netting. As black doesn't reflect light well, when installed they tend to be less noticeable than any other colour.

1: Attach to Fence: For best results, we generally recommend spacing the brackets no more than 10ft apart. Most installations involve the fixing of 1 bracket per existing fence post.

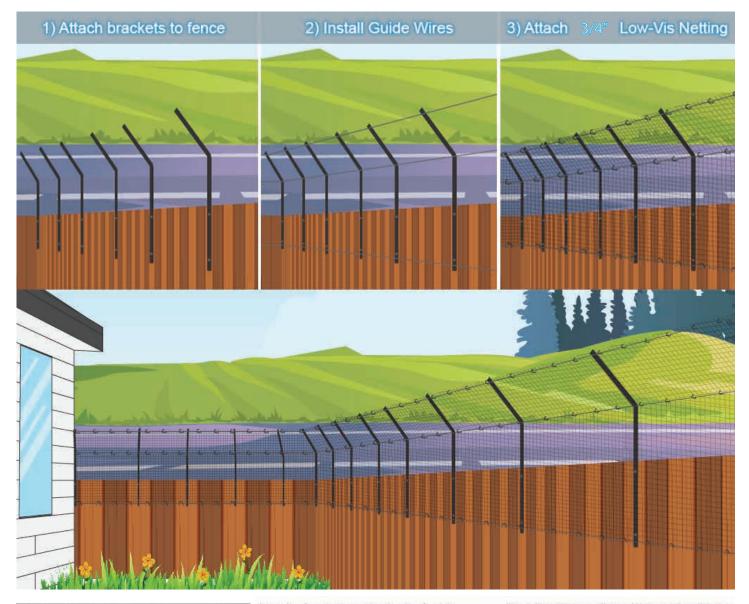
**2: Install Guide Wires:** Once the brackets are fixed, a stainless steel wire rope can be fed through the tip and angled junction of the brackets, running parallel to the fence. This wire will act as a support guide to stop the net sagging between each post. The wire should then be **LIGHTLY** tensioned using a turnbuckle. There is also a pre-drilled hole for a 3<sup>rd</sup> guide wire at the base of the brackets to help keep the netting at the bottom taught and hard against the fence.

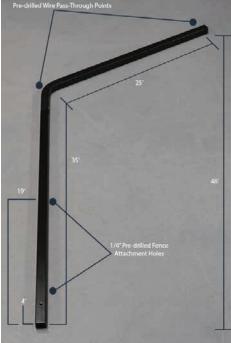
**3: Attach netting:** Once the brackets and wires are taught, the netting can then be attached to the inside of the brackets (using the 6" length UV treated Cable Ties), and also to the wire (using either the small 4" cable ties of the C-Clips).

The system works on the premise of a cat not wanting to climb upside down on an unstable surface. We generally recommend a minimum of 6½ ft total height for this type of enclosure.. Apart from the obvious physical barrier that this creates, the netting also acts as a VISUAL deterrent to potential escape.

These brackets are also a popular option for raising the height of a fence when creating a Side-Alley (fence to house) enclosure.







Once the brackets are firmly attached, the next step is to thread Guide Wire through the tip and junction of the brackets. These wires act as a support between brackets to help maintain a safe and uniform shape.

Catnets fence brackets come predrilled with 3 holes for feeding a guide wire through. 1 at the tip and 1 at the junction and 1 at the base (if required).

The wire should be tensionsed with a turnbuckle at each change of direction. The turnbuckle can hook onto the end bracket by simply using the included eye-bolt (supplied with each bracket).

Therefore as a basic checklist for a standard run you would require:

- Fence Brackets
- \* 2 Lengths of guide wire \* 2 Turnbuckles (1 for the tip wire and 1 for the junction wire)

4 Wire Rope Grips to fasten the wire

- \* Low-Vis 34" Netting
- \* Attachment Cable ties

If you require an additional wire at the base you would require 1 additional wire, 1 turnbuckle and 2 wire grips. This is usually required for colorbond fences.

Once the wires are in position and taught, the net is then hung on the inside of the bracket starting at the tip and working your way down: Using the large UV treated ties for attachment to the bracket, and the small ones for attaching the netting onto the guide wires.

Most enclosures use our 3'10" wide netting rolls for this type of enclosure. At the bottom, where your net comes down you will need to secure this to your fence so there is no gap between the netting and the fence. Depending if you have a timber or colorbond fence you may use the U-Nail method OR an additional guide wire at the top of the fence.

## **Attaching to Grass/Earth**

The most cost effective method for this is to weave a length of our Black Edging Rope through the last two meshes of the net to create a strong seam, and then secure the rope to the ground using tent pegs. This however, should only be used as a temporary installation. The preferred alternative method is to place a heavy timber sleeper along (or in) the ground, and then use the U-Nail or wire rope method to attach securely.

## **Zipper Access**

Zippers offer a means of access to and from your cat enclosure. They are an affordable option, and can be used as required dependant on your individual enclosure design. Zippers come in a range of lengths, and can be used as access points for cats, or as a thoroughfare for owners.

Regardless of the type of zipper you opt for, your enclosure netting must be fully installed and secured as tight as possible. You can then visualize the exact positioning of your zipper and then proceed to attach.

### **Easy-Fit Zipper Panels**

Our Easy-Fit Zipper Panels and Wall Nets are our most popular option, as they provide:

- A simple and quick installation requiring NO hand sewing or clips
- Are available in L-Shape or Vertical design
- Zippers are machine sewn in our overseas factory (meaning no unsightly clips or hand sewing).

These Zipper panels feature a machine sewn zipper, ensuring a neat and higher strength result. They are quick to install and don't require any experience or specialised tools.

Supplied pre-sewn, they eliminate the need for any hand-sewing, and ensure a quick and simple installation. This zipper creates a professional result at a D.I.Y price.



#### **Easy-Fit Zipper Panels Video**



Or click here to go to the video



## **D.I.Y Zipper Kits**

Our DIY Zippers come in Kit Form and require manual sewing into position.

We generally recommend not running the zip all the way to the bottom or top of your net. It works therefore more as a "step-through" style door. Always leave at least 2-3 meshes top and bottom as not to sacrifice the strength and integrity of the net. When using the <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Low-Vis netting, the zipper fits neatly across two meshes of the net. The twine is looped through the eye of the supplied needle and then used to manually sew the zipper onto the netting by hand. The needle can be pushed through the zipper material, looped around the netting and then repeated as you work your way along the length of zipper. 1-2 Loops per mesh is suggested, with extra reinforcing recommended at the ends.

If you require a larger access door, you may opt for an L-Shaped Zipper Door. This allows your zipper to open like a flap and allows easier access for lawnmower/furniture etc. The method of installation is to have the two zips meet on a "common" mesh, which would in turn open like a flap. NOTE: Take care to ensure both your zips are opening outwards / upwards to create the opening. The slider obviously opens in one direction only, so make sure it is going in the right direction before you start sewing.



### Snake / Paw Guard

Snakes and other "ground" animals can pose a threat to your netting and more importantly your cat. Paw Guard Mesh is attached to your netting using C-Clips, and it can also be cut to size without freying. Paw Guard Mesh is an ideal "additional" barrier that can be added to new or existing enclosures for added protection against:

- Snakes
- Smaller and more passive dogs
- Small Children
- Other animals and pests...



## **Creating a fun and stimulating environment**

With your cat(s) safely secured in an outdoor cat enclosure, it will now be time to help fill their days with fun and stimulating activities.

- C Hammocks
- C High resting Places
- C Hiding Spots
- C Scratching posts
- C Bedding
- C Cat Doors



The latest addition to OUR outdoor experience is our durable, safe and fun RAMPS & PLATFORMS.

Only limited by your imagination, this "modular climbing system" can be "added to" creating a Fun Cat Park with a dynamic vertical element. All cat owners know how much cats just love to perch up high, and these walks ensure many hours of both FUN & EXERCISE for both indoors & outdoors.

Unlike traditional Climbing trees or Scratching Posts, these ramps are designed for both Indoors or Outdoors and take up next to no practical living space. The ramps are covered in a Heavy Duty marine grade outdoor carpet, which can be simply hosed down to clean.

- Great source of exercise & fun for Indoors & Outdoors
- Strong & durable construction, made from heavy duty materials & marine grade carpet
- Simply hose down to clean
- Takes up next to no space as opposed to traditional scratching trees
- Unique design allows for ramps to be mounted at any angle, allowing a unique and personalised design



We also offer Premium Cat Hammocks and Shade Sails.

This cat hammock is not made of your usual shade cloth material. It is manufactured using a Heavy Duty vinyl coated polyester woven fibre mesh that is 20 times stronger than fibreglass mesh. It has quality webbing edging and is super simple to install in minutes. You can add more hammocks as required.



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# SHIPPING

Shipping is a \$20 flat rate with FREE Shipping over \$150! Orders are shipped generally shipped the same or next business day.

#### Standard delivery times:

3-7 Business days All orders are shipped via EXPRESS Airfreight from our Sydney, Australia warehouse

Obviously the delivery time can vary, especially in rural or remote areas.... So please us the above as a guide only. **EXPRESS AIR** Delivery USA Wide



Following promotions and peak time (spring/summer), in rare cases dispatch may be 2+ days. If there is to be any extended delay on an order for any reason, you will be contacted via email or phone.

Every order we send has item TRACKING, so you can track the progress of your delivery. If you have a specific delivery requirement simply enter it in the special instructions section of the website checkout.

## **ORDERING**

Our online store ensures expedited processing and shipping of your order.

Shop in your own time and then checkout using:

- Shopify Credit Card Facility
- PayPal
- ApplePay
- GooglePay

Alternatively orders can be placed by: Telephone: Call Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm AEST on +61297720889 (international) Email: sales@catnetting.com

www.catnets.co.uk www.catnetting.com www.catnets.com.au www.catnets.co.nz Simply navigate to a product at the bottom of any category page and "add to cart" the quantity required using the + or – buttons. For any items listed as By-The-Foot, the quantity you enter will be a reflection of how many lineal feet you need. For example if you require 15ft of black edging rope, you should select 15 as the qty in the black rope "by-the-foot" product screen.

Once you have added an item to your shopping cart, it will appear on the left of your screen. From here, you can adjust quantities and also delete items not required. Once you have added all required items, press Proceed to Checkout and you will be directed to the simple checkout process screen.

# PRICING

Our bulk buying power, along with the fact that you are dealing direct with the importer, ensure we can supply nets at low prices. Despite our commitment to fair and reasonable pricing, we will not compromise on quality. We continually test, assess and attempt to improve our nets to ensure they are of the utmost quality.

On average, D.I.Y installations cost less than half of those fully installed or made of wire. The majority of self installations cost less than \$250. Catnets provide all our pricing online, as we are confident we have the lowest prices available. Our standard netting price is starts from 30c per square foot, and we have bulk and monthly specials available online.

# **INSTALLATION**

Catnets does not currently offer an installation service in the USA.

If you require a measure and quote for an installation, we suggest you discuss your options with a local handyman or builder. Most handymen will have the required tools and skill required to install your cat enclosure.

We recommend you print and show them this FREE DIY guide, to give them a basic idea of the concept and the materials involved.

If you are interested in becoming an installer in the USA, please contact us.

# **NETTING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS**

Netting is an ideal material for use as a cat enclosure. It has many benefits including the following:

• It is very versatile and easy to work with. Netting can be cut to size, shaped around corners and used to fill small holes. It doesn't require any special tools, doesn't involve any heavy lifting, welding or building experience to install.

• It is affordable. With our netting available at just \$0.30 per square foot, netting is the best option for large areas that wouldn't otherwise be enclosable. Most Catnets DIY enclosures cost well under \$250.

• It is strong and long lasting. Our specialised cat netting is designed to last. It is UV treated for outdoor use, has heat strengthened knots and is pre-stretched to avoid sagging.

• It looks fantastic! Netting (especially our low-vis netting) is barely noticeable once installed. Wire cage enclosures can have a heavy, dominant and overpowering appearance, whereas a low-vis netting enclosure looks subtle and soft.

- Unlike wire cages, the netting won't get hot-to-touch in the hot summer heat.
- Won't get caught by the wind like shadecloth.
- Is airy, and allows you cat to keep cool in the summer months.
- Unlike wire cages, there are no sharp and DANGEROUS edges that are prone to rust

Catnets provides the highest quality netting, and as a result is the chosen wholesale supplier to over 25 Installers and Resellers throughout Australia, New Zealand, Singapore & the USA. Our netting is manufactured by an ISO9001: 2008 certified company, and has the following characteristics and specifications:

• 0.2% UV treated & stabilised for continued outdoor usage. Although there is the potential to add more UV additive at the time of manufacture, adding too much can weaken the netting strands. Extensive testing has found this percentage of additive to be the ideal composition for both this type of netting, and for harsh environmental conditions.

- Pre-Stretched under tension & Heat-Set to avoid sagging and stretching over time
- Made with Heat-Strengthened knots to avoid knot slipping

Just take a look at the large male Koala climbing our Low -Vis <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> netting on the following page with no problem at all!

Our Low-Vis Black is the most popular colour. As black doesn't reflect light well, it tends to disappear when installed tight in a backyard environment.

For specific 'light' coloured environments, we also offer stone/beige coloured netting. (In selected sizes only).

## Why should I enclose my cat?

Research has shown that the overwhelming majority of incidents involving cats occur at night. These studies have also shown that cats restricted at night live up to 3 years longer on average. Contrary to popular belief, cats can live and enjoy a happy and healthy life when properly contained within the backyard. Based out of our warehouse in Sydney, catnets offers a range of D.I.Y products to help keep your Cat happy and safe.

By enclosing your cat you can help eliminate risk of the following issues:

- Injured in fights
- Hit by cars
- Become lost
- Catch diseases
- Neighbourhood nuisance issues
- Legal requirements
- Wildlife safety





## **Recent Customer Reviews**

"The house is over 125 years old, and we needed to retain the character, which meant it had to blend in. As you'll see, the low-vis netting is so unobtrusive that if you don't know it's there, you don't really notice it, which is great. Fortunately my landlady knows and loves my cats as much as I do, so their safety was also of importance to her. They (the cats) now feel safe enough from the traffic and the people wandering past to sit on the verandah, and night time is now a fine time for cats to sit in the cool evening breeze and relax. :-) The net is secured using screw-in cuphooks top and bottom, and timber screwed onto the posts to secure the edges. I haven't managed to put up any hammocks or such as yet, they've got their armchairs and the plants to sit in. :-) When the house is locked up the cats can still get in and out through the windows - they fit between the security bars - and the chairs are postioned to make window access easy. I have yet to do the back verandah, which is a bit smaller, but the basic premise will be the same - except as there are no doors on the back verandah, I'll be using the zips and netting to secure the doorway. The cats are very happy with the netting - their friendly humans can fit fingers through for petting and sometimes biting, but they're still safe from people they don't know. The local lizard population (and other wildlife) are also safe, and I don't have to spend weekends rescuing lizards. All in all it's great for everyone, and I have the peace of mind of knowing my catpanions are safe but can still enjoy being semi-outdoors. :-) Thanks heaps!!!"

"Hi Mark, I would just like to say what a great company Catnets is, every email was answered so promptly and easy to understand, the samples and brochure arrived the next day, I rang up and ordered 16ft x 5'10" of net which was delivered by courier the next day, was left at my door as requested. I am thinking of putting some more of your netting up as a complete cover in, but that at the moment is in the thinking stage only. I am a mature lady who hasnt had very much experience in handyman/woman work but I did put it up myself and so pleased with it, thank you so much. Your web site is very easy to read and has heaps of information."

" As promised photos of our first cat enclosure using catnets (I am no photographer). We basically enclosed 1/3 of our pergola with an entry back through into the house using the 40mm netting. Can I say, your product is fantastic, price is great and it was very easy to use and install. The zipper entry is gold. Our bengals love their play area and we are looking forward to our next delivery of netting that we ordered today to build our super duper enclosure for our boys."

"Hello Mark, I thought that you may be interested in the cat enclosure that I have built using your low-vis ¾ netting. Our existing cat enclosure ('Adventure Playground') is to the side and rear of our home, however, we enjoy sitting on our front verandah and after some 'visualising' I thought the front verandah and associated courtyard would also make a nice cat enclosure. The attached photos show that I have generally run stainless steel wire through eyelet screws to fasten the netting at ground level, to the garage wall, the verandah pillar and to the underside of the gutter flashing. I attached pine battens to the underside of the flashing (as it would have been too difficult to attach eyelet screws to the metal flashing much easier to screw them into soft timber). The cats get to this cat enclosure through our bedroom window - the window is dead-bolted, but open enough for them to get through.

We have 6 Cats : 1 Bengal marble Female "Pepper " Aged 9 months. 1 Bengal Rosetted Female " Kayla " Aged 9 Months 1 Bengal Spotted Female " Jasper " Aged 9 months 1 Turkish Angora Male " Snowball " Aged 2 years 1 Ginger Tabby Female " Albury " Aged 8 years 1 Tortishell Female " Nike " Aged 12 years. All have their own spaces outside and the enclose is a complete success. I have enclosed photo's so you might choose to put it on your website – I am please with how unobtrusive it is as the photos indicate. I popped in a few pics of some of the bengals because they are adorable!

To view more reviews, please head to our facebook page www.facebook.com/catnets

For our full range of DIY products and accessories please visit the website www.catnetting.com



