



**Shelby the Hemp Mouse** was voted the best cat toy for 2008 and is ideal for use during supervised play.

\$15.99. To find a store carrying this product near you, call Precious Cat Inc. at 877-311-2287 or visit its website: [www.preciouscat.com](http://www.preciouscat.com).

#### ■ BEST CAT CARRIER Hagen's Pet Cargo Cabrio

This hard plastic carrier, measuring 20 inches long by 13 inches wide by 13.75 inches high, is sturdy and big enough to hold up to a 25-pound cat. This carrier features two points of entry: a clear front door, which provides excellent visibility, and a top-opening hatch. This product also includes a comfortable handle and seatbelt loop.

For those times when you need to transport a cat, the Cabrio provides more security than most airline-approved pet carriers because of its padlock holes and the fact that its deep food and water dishes can be filled without opening the door — and risking a feline escape. The interior provides ample room for a shoebox-sized litter pan and to allow the cat to turn around.

This carrier costs \$77.99. To find a store near you, please contact the

manufacturer at 800-225-2700 or visit its website: [www.hagen.com](http://www.hagen.com).

#### ■ BEST FELINE FURNITURE Kittyhawk Set

The Kittyhawk is an affordable, expandable feline entertainment system that enables cats to lounge inside a cubicle or rest on five hammocks. Carpet-covered legs double as replaceable scratching posts. The hammocks are secured with Velcro™ strips. Lightweight yet stable, this product measures 32 inches tall by 48 inches wide by 32 inches deep with 18-inch cubes.

Although the printed directions were vague, representatives from the manufacturer promptly addressed all assembly directions by phone.

After six months of use, the hammock held firm and the test cats still use it constantly. You can add on to the Kittyhawk as your household budget allows.

This product costs \$169.95, plus shipping. Contact the manufacturer at 877-422-8639 to inquire about other models and special offers. Include the code word "catnip" for a \$10 discount off your first order. To learn more, please visit its website: [www.felinefurniture.com](http://www.felinefurniture.com).

#### ■ BEST CAT TOY Shelby the Hemp Mouse

The test cats loved this no-frills hemp mouse filled with a 50-50

mixture of organic and certified organic catnip. It contains no fabric stuffing and is free of poison because hemp agriculture requires no pesticides. Shelby features a hemp fiber tail and ears. When it wears out, you can toss it in the compost.

One of most shy test cats was instantly intrigued by this toy and immediately began tossing it around. Shelby's seven-inch tail allows you to safely pick up this toy and play with your cat without risk of being accidentally scratched or bitten. All the test cats enjoyed playing with this American-made product. Remember, however, to use this toy during supervised play and to stow it out of paw's reach when playtime is over.

This toy retails for \$4.99, plus shipping. You can find a store carrying this product near you by calling 877-676-7689 or by visiting the website: [www.fromthefieldpet.com](http://www.fromthefieldpet.com).

#### ■ BEST CAT SCRATCHER Imperial Cat Tower Tunnel Scratcher

The Tower Tunnel Scratcher is an extremely attractive cardboard scratcher that measures 18½ inches long by 9 inches wide by 18 inches high and features a 12-inch center opening. Cats can lounge on two lounging surfaces made of recycled paper that can be recycled and replaced when worn out.

The test cats went crazy over the potent certified organic catnip and one or more can be found any time of the day sleeping on the Imperial Cat Tower Tunnel Scratcher. It provides many different angles to appeal to cats' different scratching preferences.

These scratchers come in many different styles and price ranges. The Tower Tunnel retails for \$49.95, plus shipping. You can purchase all styles from Cat Claws (visit [www.catclaws.com](http://www.catclaws.com) or call 800-783-0977). To locate retailers near you, contact the manufacturer by calling 800-783-0977 or visit the manufacturer's website at [www.imperialcat.com](http://www.imperialcat.com). 🐾

Catnip's product comparisons reflect testing and evaluation by the writers of *Catnip* and are independent of Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University.