

## **New Years Resolutions?**

A recent study showed that 88% of those setting New Year's resolutions fail to achieve or maintain them. Perhaps they are often made in hope than with any real conviction. Perhaps our pets might have more chance of achieving them? Some possibilities for our pets might be as follows;

### **Cats.**

I will not use the bath to store live mice for late-night snacks

I will not perch on my human's chest in the middle of the night and stare into her eyes until she wakes up.

I will stop using computer and TV screens to light up my lovely tail.

I will not play "dead cat on the stairs" while people are trying to bring in groceries or washing, or else one of these days, it will really come true.

### **Or Dogs.**

I will stop trying to find the few remaining clean pieces of carpet in the house when I am about to be sick.

I will not roll in dead badger.

I will not lick my owner's face after eating animal droppings.

I will not bark each time I hear a door bell or TV.

My head does not belong in the refrigerator.

I must shake the rainwater out of my fur BEFORE entering the house.

While it is easy to make fun of these things perhaps it would be a good time of year for pet owners to make, and keep, some resolutions? Some examples might be;

Taking the dog out for regular walks; or taking it for longer ones?

Not giving my pets titbits or scraps; some may look rotund but they are not dustbins. If they need to lose weight, talk to your Veterinary Nurse about how to diet them.

Treat them for parasites regularly. When were they last treated for worms, fleas or ticks? Talk to your Veterinary Surgeon about the best way to do this.

Are you brushing your pets' teeth regularly. Without this many will get dental disease and may need extensive treatment. Talk to your Veterinary Nurse about how to prevent this.

Are their vaccinations up to date? All dogs and cats need regular boosters. Talk to your practice as to what your pet might need.

If we all managed to keep at least one of these resolutions then our pets' would have a healthier new year, and hopefully, we would all have a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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