

Timeline of Cat Evolution

65 million years ago: Early Carnivorans: Ancestors of all modern carnivores, including the early divergence

30 million years ago: Proailurus: Considered the 'first true cat,' Proailurus lived in Europe and is a common

20 million years ago: Pseudaelurus: Split between modern cats and the lineage that led to saber-toothed c

2.5 million years ago: Saber-Toothed Cats: Species like Smilodon emerged. Known for their large canine t

2 million years ago: Emergence of Modern Felis Genus: The lineage of small cats, including today's domes

10,000 years ago: Domestication Begins: Evidence of early domesticated cats in the Near East, where cats

Present Day: Modern Domestic Cats: Domestic cats (*Felis catus*) are now one of the most popular pets wo