

# Scooge



My baby Scooge-ums is about 19 years old now. She showed up on my doorstep just over 18 years ago, in the middle of a blizzard at just before 5AM. As soon as I opened the screen door, she pushed her way in, flopped over, and never voluntarily left my home again. A few weeks later, I learned she came pre-loaded with kittens, one of whom is my buddy Gold.

She's a sweet little cat who loves being brushed and having her face and jaws rubbed. She used to love sitting on my desk next to me, and climbing around on things, but she had a very bad fall last July and injured her leg badly. It's healed well enough for her to run around, but she can't bend her leg very well, so jumping is almost impossible for her, and it also means she has an issue with using the litter box. Basically, you have to have the litter level right or she'll pee right out the door since she can't squat very well while supporting her own weight anymore.

That aside, she's in pretty good health. Her biggest issue is mats in her fur, which she can't reach to groom very well anymore. A visit to the groomer to get a sanitary trim is recommended every few months. She might need sedation to shave off ALL her mats, as she will get grumpy after a little bit.



She's a fan of Fancy Feast canned food, and also Purina Cat Chow Naturals, the chicken and salmon flavor. She had to eat Royal Canin Hydrolyzed Protein food for a while, and will still eat it if you have it. She's missing one big tooth, so it's harder for her to eat anything big. She loves Land O Frost smoked ham slices as a treat too. Sometimes she'll eat diced up chicken pieces too, if they're slightly warm.



If she trusts you, she may bite your toes. I think her first owner used to kick her, as she would shy away from everyone's feet for many years after we took her in. So as painful as it might be, it's a sign she really trusts you not to retaliate. She also likes the little red bug from the laser pointer, but after being injured I don't let her chase it often or for very long. If you put some steps going up to the window sill, she will sit there to watch the world go by outside, just please make sure they are rock solid and won't twist or shift as that's how she got hurt before.

I always hoped I'd be there to take care of her and keep her safe and happy until the end, but circumstances are making that impossible. This is really painful, and I can only hope that you might give her the love, safety, and friendship she deserves for her last few years. Thanks for reading.