

## HOW TO PILL A CAT

After watching these and reading the instructions you will be an expert!

First of all, do the medicating **on a counter** in a small room like a bathroom with door closed where they can't see an escape route. I often do it in a top loading carrier (hard case) so they are restricted even more (if I am doing it alone). A small box would work with high sides, if you go to Costco, one of their carrot boxes or similar. Also a towel works with some cats but NOT all cats. Some cats do NOT do well with a towel, it scares them being that restrained, if the cat fights the towel, don't use it.

Watch these You tube's at the links below:

<http://youtu.be/OtZ-8YT-etM> How to pill a cat -- **this is my favorite, she has a very good technique**

[http://youtu.be/fnj\\_2TV4x7U](http://youtu.be/fnj_2TV4x7U) How to pill a cat also good showing pill popper

<http://youtu.be/sZhFKHxnG4Q> How to pill a cat, (but I think the floor isn't as good as a counter)

<http://youtu.be/srfjgNG4nT8> How to give pills to a cat

<http://youtu.be/3VnLcmZwEag> How to Scruff a cat (useful with pilling)

[http://youtu.be/FWFKl\\_rSpM8](http://youtu.be/FWFKl_rSpM8) How to Scruff a cat (**good**, except don't try to scruff a fighting cat -- water works better and is safer)

<http://youtu.be/S-pYM4VVNaI> How to give pills to a cat

Follow pill with a few mLs of water and stroke throat. Give them a special treat or bite of something good like chicken afterwards so it's not all a bad experience.

Brief written instructions:

Hold head with one hand tilting head back and pop in buttered pill with pill popper then stroke throat until they swallow. Follow with 1- 2 mLs of water if you can.

I also copied off some more detailed instructions from internet for you & some photos, see below.



*While holding the head back, use the thumb and third finger to push the sides of the cat's mandible and hold it open. Use the index finger of the opposite hand to open the mouth by pushing down on the lower incisors if necessary.*

*Smoothness and speed are your best allies; if you are struggling with your cat, take a break and try again later.*

Adapted in part from Andrew Edney



*The pill must get into the laryngopharynx quickly so that it neither dissolves nor is tasted or smelled.*



## Traditional Method of Pilling a Cat



Giving your cat a pill can be very frustrating for both you and the cat. Having patience is critical. Depending on your cats disposition, we have found this method can work well. Sit with the cat up against your body, as you are sitting on the floor, and grasping his top jaw with your non-dominant hand. Place your thumb and second finger (as shown) at the corners of the cat's mouth.



Tablet or capsule should be held in your dominant hand while you gently tip your cat's head back, pull top jaw towards your body and lower jaw away from your body. Grasp pill and drop it towards the back of the cat's throat and quickly close the mouth. Stroke the throat to encourage swallowing or gently blow in your cats nose, as this also induces swallowing. It is always a good idea to inject a little bit of water into the cats mouth to help wash down the pill.

