



Shy cats can be a challenge. Because they do not feel safe and are untrusting of humans, they often hide in a place where they can feel protected. This makes it very difficult to get to know them.

Esmeralda is one such kitty. When she came into PAWS care in April, she was very thin and very, very frightened. Over the first several weeks, she was spayed and brought up to date on her immunizations. She recovered well, but remained scared and preferred to hide in her carrier.

Initially, she was in a foster home with other cats. The resident cat did not like having her around and would act aggressively toward her only adding to her anxiety. So, in June, she was moved to a foster home where she could be the only pet, hoping that she would adjust more quickly with the attention from the work-at-home foster mom.



Esmeralda is a young adult, about 2.5 years old. It is more difficult to gain the trust of adult cats who are not used to people, or may have had negative past experiences. But Esmeralda is slowly coming around. She continues to stay in her carrier during the day even though she is free to roam around. She does come out at night when there are no people around. She allows petting, but does not purr—yet. Esmeralda appears to have the makings of a loving cat. Her foster says, "I am working in the same room and this morning I saw her peek out at me. Of course, she retreated to her safe space as soon as we made eye contact but at least she's curious."

It is going to take considerable time and patience for Esmeralda to feel safe and confident enough to trust being around humans. PAWS is committed to allowing her all the time she needs.



Caring for shy cats like Esmeralda can get quite expensive. In addition to routine veterinary care, they need food and shelter for a prolonged period of time. While this might not seem like much, the costs add up quickly and become one of our major expenses.

Today is \$5 Friday!

If you are able, please consider a donation to help us continue to help Esmeralda, and other kitties like her, as long as needed to become comfortable living with her human family.

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to donate via credit card, Venmo, PayPal. OR, if you prefer, mail a check, payable to PAWS, to: PAWS \$5 Friday 411 Lowell Street Wakefield, MA 01880