

## HEALTH &amp; SAFETY

# Lilies and Other Plants That Are Dangerous to Cats

True lilies and daylilies cause kidney failure in cats, even from pollen. Which plants to remove, and what to do after an exposure.

By Catt County Cat Nippers • Reviewed October 15, 2026 • 1 min read • 3 cited sources

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## Lilies are an emergency

True lilies (Lilium: Easter, Tiger, Stargazer, Asiatic and Japanese show lilies) and daylilies (Hemerocallis) cause acute kidney failure in cats. Every part is toxic: leaves, petals, pollen, even the water in the vase. A cat can be poisoned just by grooming pollen off its fur.

Early treatment with IV fluids gives the best chance of recovery, ideally within about 18 hours of exposure. Do not wait for symptoms, and do not try to make the cat vomit at home.

## Lilies that are not kidney-toxic

Peace lilies, calla lilies and Peruvian lilies do not cause kidney failure, but peace and calla lilies can irritate the mouth. Lily of the valley is a different danger: it affects the heart.

## If you think a cat was exposed

1. Take the cat, and the plant if you can, to an emergency vet right away.
2. Call a poison line on the way: ASPCA Animal Poison Control (888) 426-4435. A consultation fee may apply.

## Sources

1. ASPCA Animal Poison Control — Lily  
<https://www.aspcapetcare.org/pet-care/aspcapet-care/poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants/lily>

## **2. Pet Poison Helpline — Lilies**

<https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poison/lilies/>

## **3. ASPCapro — How to Spot Which Lilies Are Dangerous to Cats**

<https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/how-spot-which-lilies-are-dangerous-cats-plan-treatment>