



Ankara Kedi

Specialclub of Felis Danica

TURKISH VAN

Tail:

Vans carry their tail lifted straight up in the air, tilting it when greeting, displeased, or out for a walk (on a leash) in the garden or at a show.

Voice:

Vans have a special way of miaowing. They use their voice to get attention or ingratiate themselves to get what they want. They will also complain in a very high-pitched tone if you fail to understand or give in. If you give out to them you can be sure they will get the final miaow.

Water:

Never leave water standing around. (You don't know where the cat last had its paws). Toilet lids should be left closed. Everything you leave to soak etc. should be covered. Remember to remove straws from glasses and bottles unless you want to clean up the Van's mess. A tub of water with straws or ping-pong balls makes great entertainment for a Van. Time to go "fishing".

Vans love to play with water. They are reputed to get into the bath with you, but so do a lot of other cats, regardless of breed. Perhaps Vans would voluntarily

go for a swim if given the opportunity, that remains to be seen! However Vans are sometimes referred to as swimming cats, although all cats can swim if necessary. Vans do enjoy water though.

Bath:

If however, you need to give your Van a bath, don't expect much cooperation. This is probably mostly because this mostly happens when they are being dolled up for a show. Being a natural breed, they groom themselves if allowed. They enjoy a roll in the dust outside. This give rise to interesting new varieties like grey-red! They may also do it before chasing birds to reduce their visibility.

Ears:

When playing, hunting or "fighting" they are "earless", laying them flat against their head where they disappear in thick fur.

Temperament:

Lively and bossy. Vans should not be given the run of the neighbourhood if you want to stay on good terms with the people around you. A strong Van never turns its back on an "enemy". It will stare down the dog or cat that ventures into its territory. It may even use its "flattery-call" to entice the "enemy" to come closer the better to attack! Vans are highly territorial and will not tolerate unknown cats or dogs on its turf. This is where the BOSSY bit comes in. Be aware that the Van may try to win leadership over you. Vans need to know who's in charge. One friend said: Vans are clever cats that want to gain power. This is why they should be trained like a dog. Never buy a kitten that appears timid or hides. They should be trusting and curious.

Instincts and Hunting:

Not a lot of insects survive around a Van, inside or out, be they fruit-flies, spiders or moths. Lazy-looking Vans are having you on. Suddenly they will rush around wildly chasing an insect. This is where it's wise to put away fragile valuables.

In Case of "Accident":

Vans don't run away if something falls to the floor (Although they may have helped it along!). It will look at you as if to ask whether you have some sort of problem with all that "junk" standing in its way.

Vans are loving and devoted. They will walk off when they no longer desire your company, but will keep an eye on what you're doing. When Vans want attention they want it now, not in 10 minutes. If you don't have time, they know what to do: They will select something they know will get your attention and make you drop what you're doing. First they will just "touch" but if they fail to receive instant attention, it ends up on the floor. BOSSY again. You may be given the cold shoulder for a while if you don't deliver the attention it wants.

Food:

They may dig about in their food or use their paws to eat. They may even dip it in their water-bowl - they're not Vans for nothing!

New Things/Mess:

Vans are very attentive to change. If the newspaper falls/is pushed onto the floor or if anything new is brought into the house, it will be approached with the utmost of care. Next comes "the paw test": a very long, careful paw will reach out to "swat" the object to test it for acceptability and subsequent approval.

Pain:

It takes a lot for a Van to cry out if you step on it. It may give you a reproachful look: "Would you mind getting your foot off my tail?"

www.ankarakedi.dk

Chairman **Barbara Hassenteufel**
Tel: +45 9817 9509