

## Bengal Temperament & Behavior

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From my experiences with Bengals so far, I think they are readily socialized. I have let my own young daughter play with Bengals, which I would *never* do if I thought they were dangerous. **Bengals are no more dangerous or wild than your average cat.** Certainly any cat can scratch and any cat can bite, and in that respect a Bengal is just like any cat. But I have seen no evidence that they are any more dangerous than your average pet cat.

According to my direct experience of the breed, they appear to be quite capable of being socialized if handled as youngsters in a friendly non-threatening situation, which is exactly what you want to do with *any* cat if you want them to grow up to be a friendly cat. I have handled them and played with them and not had any problems with them.

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Dr. Crowell-Davis is a professor at the University of Georgia, Athens. She has studied and treated feline behavior problems for more than 20 years and is currently involved in extensive research regarding the behavior of both housecats and feral cat colonies. She has published extensively on the subject of feline behavior.

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