

## UPVC/PVCU

The use of UPVC for catteries has increased significantly over the past five years. The reasons for this are:

- Well-known and familiar product for replacement doors and windows that is quick and easy to assemble
- Easy to clean and non-porous
- Professional and clean appearance
- Is generally supplied in a white finish. Alternative colour options are available, but are more expensive (these are only used on the external face with white still being used internally).
- The product may expand slightly during periods of **prolonged heat**. Although this can be an irritation if doors/windows temporarily do not close smoothly, it does settle down again when the temperature cools

What to check:

- Check on the manufacturer's warranty for discolouration – most offer a 10 year warranty for yellowing
- Costs are similar to better quality timber equivalents, or can vary up to 20% compared with poorer quality timber
- There are large variations in cost/quality between manufacturers, for what at first appear to be the same product!
- Careful consideration of the manufacturer's specification is essential to establish what the differences are to compare like-for-like. For example: compared with 25mm/1" polycarbonate opal/bronze-tinted roof sheeting, the heat-shield coating option can double the cost. This isn't noticeable when you see the products, but on a hot day you would certainly feel the difference in temperature!
- Can look more obtrusive when used as a stand-alone building in certain settings, (landscaping obviously helps any building 'settle in') but looks extremely smart in a traditional construction, or in a building conversion

### The quality of the material varies enormously between manufacturers

Any concern about the use of this product with regard to possible extremes of temperature and ventilation issues is probably associated with poor design, poor quality roofing materials and also a possible over-use of glass.

Next we will learn more about using UPVC cat pens, followed by a case study of a rescue cattery using UPVC:

*This rescue charity constructed two full-sized catteries using UPVC in the UK's hot south west and had no issues. The site in question is set in an old quarry with 30 ft/10 m cliffs on two sides. Consequently, the centre does experience extremely high temperatures, often over prolonged periods of time. It is interesting that the UPVC catteries replaced an old timber cattery. With the timber unit there were considerable problems with extremes in hot weather, with temperatures well in excess of 30°C/86°F. Even with the installation of additional insulation on the roof, the centre still had to run cooling fans during the summer months and hang blankets etc over the exercise runs. With the UPVC cattery, the centre staff do not have any concerns about heat issues or ventilation and are extremely pleased with the quality of the product.*



# UPVC CAT PENS

Paul Collins, Pedigree Pens

## BOARDING CATTERIES

In today's discerning market there is a need for high quality, hygienic, low maintenance facilities. This strategy is important in order to market and establish your business correctly, not only because of customer demands, but also to comply with increasing local authority cattery regulation requirements.

Over the last ten years we at Pedigree Pens have worked closely with our customers and built up extensive knowledge in assisting people starting up a cattery business. It is an essential part of our strategy to work closely with our customers on an ongoing basis, as this ensures our customers are happy and also provides us with a continuous programme of design and development.

We are chosen for our quality construction materials, the know-how to make this possible and we **offer a full design service**, can provide statements to assist **planning issues**, **offer advice** on advertising and marketing strategies, courses and even provide a free business support service via our website. Our website lists our customers' cattery business details, such as address, contact details, photographs and website addresses. This helps to generate new business for them, because if anyone searches the internet for a cattery in a specific county, the search engine will identify our website, through which customers can be contacted by cat owners.

**We have helped over 50 boarding and rescue centres start up!**

Our customers want the highest quality of boarding accommodation to provide the highest standards of comfort, hygiene and security seen in the boarding industry. Due to the emphasis on these high standards, they are able to charge higher fees for this level of service.

## STARTING A NEW CATTERY

We would suggest that our boarding catteries are installed as small and exclusive developments (ideally 10 to 35 double size pens) and are focused towards the more discerning cat owner who is prepared to pay a premium for a quality service and environment. **Our pens can be installed as complete buildings, or within an existing or new cattery building.**

**The cost of the pens can usually be covered by sales in the first year of trading, and possibly by the end of month eight!**

## SUCCESS & EXPANSION

The majority of our installations are listed on our website and each one is running very successfully, achieving repeat business year after year. Many of our customers are so successful within the first two years of opening that they contact us again looking to expand their business further!

Choosing a Pedigree Pens installation means that you will be offering a service with the highest standard of cattery, which more and more customers are demanding these days.

Serious direct competition is unlikely to exist, as there are certain to be boarding catteries

within your local area which offer a much lower standard of accommodation.

**We can manufacture to your exact requirements, and we can supply you with:**

- Freestanding pens
- Convert existing buildings
- Fit out a new building

# FREESTANDING PENS

## FREESTANDING PENS

When starting a cattery, many people use the land adjoining their home. Where this is the case, we can install freestanding pens (the units are fitted to a level concrete base), e.g:

1. Patz Catz Cat Hotel: 10 double 'penthouse' style pens located in Hampshire
2. Cloughfields Cat Hotel: 'L' shape formation consisting of 15 double size pens located in Sheffield
3. Imberpark Cattery: 14 double size 'walk-in' pens located in Middlesex and 10 minutes from Heathrow
4. Templeogue Cattery: 30 double size pens this cattery is located in rural Dublin, Ireland
5. Beechcroft Cats Hotel: Cattery consisting of 30 'walk-in' style pens located rurally in Cardiff

## Below:

Lowbroom Cattery: A small cattery consisting of 4 double pens, located rurally in Monmouthshire



# CONVERSION & NEW BUILD

## CONVERSION

You may have existing farm buildings or outbuildings that you wish to convert. In this case we can convert the existing building into a new cattery, requiring just the shell of a building to install under cover. Pens are installed internally and usually have a flat roof, e.g:



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1. The Blue Cross Tiverton: Conversion creating 20 pens for this rescue centre located in Devon
2. Foxcombe Cats Hotel: Conversion of an existing farm building located rurally in Pembrokeshire

## NEW BUILD

Pedigree Pens frequently fits out new buildings. We work closely with contractors, we provide: doors, divisions and rooms on individual requirements and our expertise, e.g:



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3. Heathrow Airport (Animal Reception Centre): Kennels and cattery at for quarantine and passport pets
4. Rochdale RSPCA: 27 rescue pens at the RSPCA centre in Red Cross street Rochdale
5. The Blue Cross Lewknor: Fitted out divisions, doors and rooms to create new cattery. Located in Oxfordshire

## HOLDING PENS

In addition to providing boarding facilities we also supply Holding Pens for housing cats for 24 hour periods.



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# PEDIGREE PENS

## RESCUE CATTERIES

We will also manufacture and install high quality, insulated boarding kennels and catteries for rescue centres, examples of which can be seen at many of Britain's leading animal charities such as Cats Protection, The Blue Cross, RSPCA, and The Mayhew Animal Home.

In particular, Blue Cross and Britain's RSPCA have worked closely with us to ensure that their exact requirements for animal housing have been met fully for their long-term needs. Different styles of pens can be viewed at our Gloucestershire showroom (M5 Junction 9) – directions available from the website.

### Some of our customers are in this book, including:

- Blue Cross Torbay, page 279
- Blue Cross Lewknor, 408
- Harpenden Cat Hotel, 32
- Mayhew Animal Home, 224
- Preston Hills Cat Hotel, 472
- Pyrton Cat Hotel, 88
- Templepan Cat Hotel, 286

## ABOUT PEDIGREE PENS LTD

We are a BS EN ISO (Quality Assured, U.K.) registered company and specialise solely in the manufacture of PVCu animal housing and have done so since 1993. We have hundreds of installations throughout the U.K. for commercial boarders, rescue centres and private households.

Our experience in this field is second to none. We are original sponsors of the UK's CIEH (Chartered Institute of Environmental Health) Model Licence Conditions for Cat Boarding Establishments.

## PRODUCT QUALITY & STANDARDS

With a clear objective: to raise standards for animal care in the private and public sectors, we have developed our exciting range of cat accommodation to address issues of hygiene, security, comfort, maintenance and longevity.

Our products are manufactured to meet increasingly high expectations and individual requirements, in addition to providing designs which have been carefully developed over the years.

All our frames are made from PVCu which is highly regarded for its self extinguishing properties. The modular design of our pens allows for installation of any number of chalets from just one or two to a hundred or more and means they can be installed at a later date to accommodate your expansion plans.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Collins our Managing Director at:

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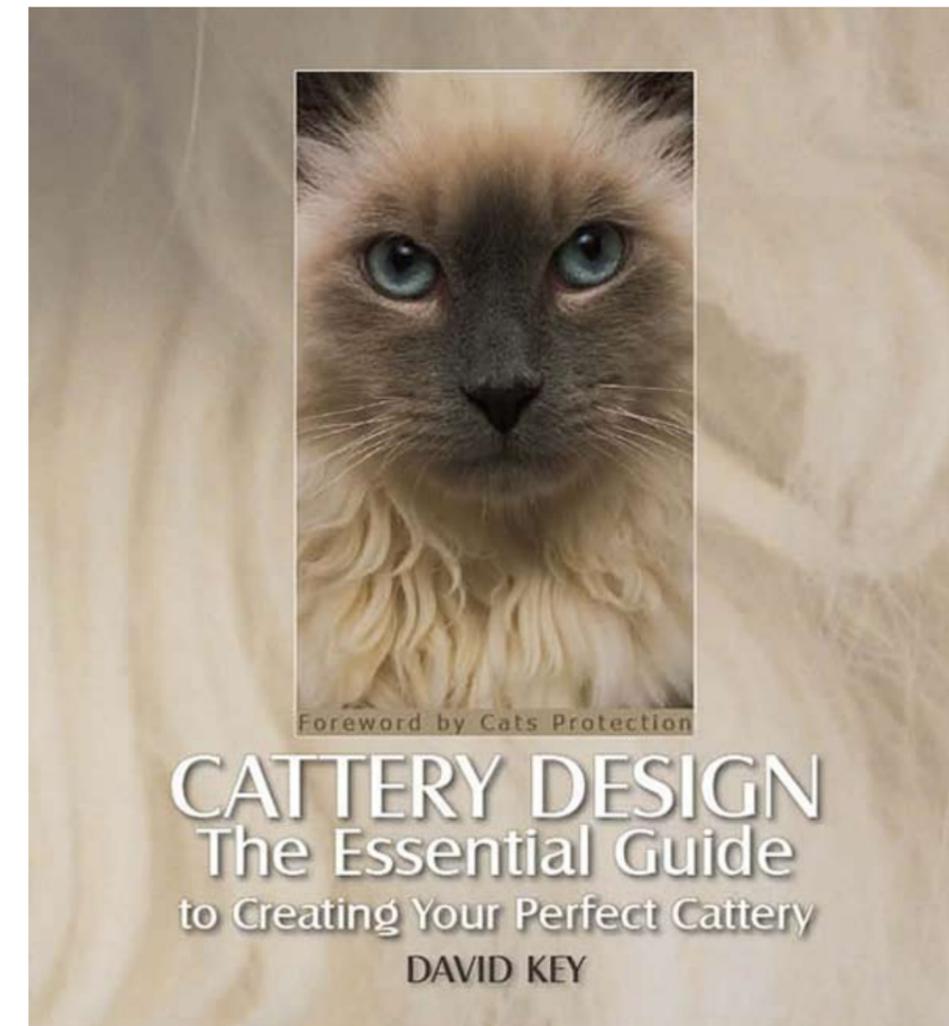
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THIS IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE CATTERY DESIGN BOOK.



## EXPERT CATTERY-BUILDING ADVICE

### The essential guide

This essential guide will provide you with an easy to read, encouraging and inspirational overview of cattery systems, equipment and materials. With step-by-step guidance for creating your perfect cattery design at your fingertips, and real life case studies, this book will help you understand how catteries can be improved with cat welfare knowledge.

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### 400+ colour photos Inspiration and ideas

Lavishly packed with over 400 large colour photographs, many of which are full or double-page spreads showing lots of detail – just like looking through a window!

[www.catterydesign.com](http://www.catterydesign.com)