

## 3 Hypothetical Reasons Why Cats Are Popular on the Internet

It seems as if no matter where you look online, you can't escape from them. Even the guy who started the *I Can Has Cheezburger* network managed to build a multimillion dollar corporation out of silly cat pictures. Unbelievable, but true.

It's no secret that the Internet has chosen cats over any other animal as its favorite.

But why is this? Why didn't the Internet choose dogs instead?

According to past U.S. pet ownership statistics, dogs were and may still be the more popular pet choice over cats in some locations.

Of course, we may be able to agree that dogs do have some kind of humorous presence on the web, but not as much as their feline foes.

There must be a reason for this. In fact, we decided that there are at least three of them. Let us explore them now.

- 1. Nobody ever expected cats to be funny, because dogs have always done it first.**

The unexpected is what gets people talking.

Perhaps we can all agree that dogs have always been the goofy ones. A famous Disney canine character was even named after that exact word.

Let's face it. We just expect dogs to be silly. And so we laugh at them, because they've always been funny first.

Dogs are easily amused by small things, like throwing a ball in a park. You've seen them go nuts for that. They look ridiculous with their tongues hanging out the side of their mouths, and some of them would rather run in a circle chasing their own tails than do anything else.

We can't help but expect it from dogs.

But then we have cats. Cats don't do anything like that. Try throwing a ball to a cat as an attempt to play fetch and he'll just sit there and stare at you like you've completely lost your mind.

Cats have a strong sense of attitude and arrogance that we really don't see in other pets or animals. Their temperaments have been forever classified in the *very, very serious* category by humans.

What's more, we know that societal tastes in humor have changed... especially since the rise of the glorious information age.

We like to find the humor in things that we would never expect to make us laugh. Clowns were originally invented to be a funny, but people are now learning how to find the humor in more ordinary situations.

Back in the day, people might have never laughed at viral videos like the Double Rainbow Guy or the Bed Intruder Song.

But the fact that the Double Rainbow Guy freaked out over something that we've probably all seen after

a thunderstorm somehow turned the ordinary into something completely extraordinary. And it was funny.

When we find the hidden humor in something that's not supposed to be funny, it has the hugest potential to explode and go viral.

Cats are not supposed to be funny.

But somehow, when we least expect it... they just are.

## **2. Maybe cats are for introverts, and dogs are for extroverts.**

Pardon our ignorance for pushing out the stereotypes, but there may be some hidden truth in this to help prove why the Internet chose cats.

If you're an introvert, chances are that you're more likely to own a cat rather than a dog. Why? Because introverts like to spend more time alone than they do with people, and therefore they're more likely to spend a lot more time mindlessly surfing the Internet.

Unlike dogs, cats are totally independent animals. Cats are the introverts of the pet kingdom.

Simply fill their bowls with food and change their kitty litter every so often. That's all you really need to do to have a happy cat.

Extroverted people can't stand sitting at home. They have to be out doing something, all the time, which might contribute to the reason why dogs are the more popular pet choices for extroverted people who spend more time with people and less time with the Internet.

Dogs LOVE people. They love to be petted, played with, and need to be walked daily. Therefore, they help keep the extroverted people busy with stuff to do.

Ask a computer programmer what kind of pet he has. It will probably be a cat.

Ask the leader of the marathon running group what kind of pet he has. It will probably be a dog.

Cats are great coding buddies, because they do nothing. Dogs are great running buddies, because they need frequent exercise. The coder spends more time on the Internet than the marathon runner does. So if the Internet is ruled by introverts and geeky people, this may be why cats are the natural winners.

Is this even logical? Not really, but it's something we can at least consider in order to justify our own stupid obsessions with all these damn cats.

### **3. Weird is totally in. The weirder, the better.**

Out with normal, in with weird. That's our motto, right?

Lots of things exist on the Interwebz to purely induce a sense of disbelief or alienation inside the minds of strange people like ourselves.

Society has become obsessed with all things odd or unusual. There are a slew of new market opportunities hiding around every corner for the people who love all things weird.

And cats are one of those things. They are downright weird. Just when you think you understand them, they do something that totally steps up the weird factor.

So many of us will never be able to understand exactly how or why that Nyan Cat video became so popular... but we can easily recognize that everything about the video is totally bizarre in every way.

And so, maybe the whole Internet cat phenomenon is something that we're just not meant to ever understand.

Cats are weird, independent, and serious in all nature. Somehow, the combination of those qualities has accidentally created the right formula for viral web domination.

When it comes to the Internet, you can't deny that cats rule, and dogs kind of drool.