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by Maria Puente

The entire house

Cough up cool cash for the cool cat

Cat owners, if not their kitties, are purring over a recent onslaught of stylish cat furniture and accessories.

Litter-pan covers that double as benches, cabinets or planters. Wall-mounted scratching pads that look like low-hanging art works. Curvy kitty beds, chaises and perches that look like modern sculpture. Stainless-steel food dishes perfectly suited to a stainless-steel kitchen.

Why now? Because people

who spend a fortune creating a modern look for their apartments or homes are fed up with plastic putty-colored litter pans shoved in the corner.

It was inevitable, says Kate Benjamin, 36, of Phoenix, whose blog, *ModernCat.net*, surveys the Internet for modern-design cat furniture and accessories.

"People are into making their homes look good," Benjamin says. "I wanted to share my findings with others."

Cool-cat design isn't cheap. The Kattbank, a bench-style litter-pan cover (*Kattbank.com*), comes in 14 lacquer colors, four wood veneers, two sizes and costs \$1,750-\$2,200. A matching set of nine cat products, including litter cover, bed and scratching post and featuring cabinetry-style crown molding wainscoting and trim, will cost nearly \$3,000 (available in April, *FivePetPlace.com*).



Cat's meow:
Cheeky Chaise cat
bed for \$139.