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# Pet Lovers' central

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## Naming Your Cat: Finding the Purr-fect Fit



*By Nazima Versay Kudus*

Naming a child is a meticulous process for any parents, often involving extensive research during pregnancy. Traditionally, they would flip through books, but now they turn to the Internet to find a suitable name for their child. The chosen name must have a good meaning, reflecting the hope that the child will embody the virtues it represents. Interestingly, the process of naming pets, particularly cats, is quite similar. Cats are considered beloved family members; thus, they deserve meaningful and memorable names.

My cats were adopted from cats I found at the market near my home. They were named Patches, Goldie and Koko, each name reflecting the shades of their fur. As I am a proponent of minimalism; too long names, to me, are wasteful. So my cats, like my children, have only two-syllable words. This choice of naming my felines was also made for ease of recollection, especially since they sometimes lived at the same time. By referring to their colour shades, I could easily remember and distinguish between them.





However, my colleague, Noor Azli Affendy Lee, takes a highly meticulous approach to naming his Bengal cats, drawing inspiration from areas closely aligned with his hobbies and interests. As a dedicated cat breeder, he extensively researches unique and often expensive cats to add to his collection. His goal is to breed these distinctive felines and offer them to prospective owners, ensuring each cat's name reflects a special part of his passions. A significant number of his Bengals are named “AzeL” likely because it serves as a prefix that denotes a specific lineage or breeding programme. In the world of cat breeding, using a common prefix for names helps identify cats that come from the same breeder, making it easier to track their lineage and maintain the breeder's reputation.

Lee has a penchant for the cosmos, as seen in the space-themed names for his Bengal cats, such as Dominant Bengals Galactica Nova, Nusantra Bengal Battlestar Fenix and Nusantra Bengal Solaria Izsha. These names reflect a fascination with outer space and science fiction, perhaps inspired by popular space operas and the grandeur of the universe. The use of such names suggests a desire to imbue his pets with a sense of adventure and wonder, evoking images of stars, galaxies and cosmic exploration.



Nusantrabengal Solaria Izsha





A significant number of Lee's cat names fall under the fantasy category. Names like Coppiecatz Xelnaga Ryuu, AzeL Reaper Mutiara Mariana DiSayang and AzeL Valkyrie Nikki are indicative of a love for fantasy worlds filled with mythical creatures and heroic figures. This preference may stem from a passion for fantasy literature, games and movies, where characters often possess unique and powerful names. By choosing such names, Lee may be projecting attributes like strength, courage and mystique onto his pets, making them seem larger-than-life.

Lee's cats, AzeL Corsair Ultra Magnus and AzeL Hellion Elita One, draw inspiration from the realm of science fiction, particularly the Transformers franchise. This indicates a strong affinity for futuristic narratives and robotic heroes, symbolising transformation and resilience. These names reflect a blend of admiration for technology and the allure of characters who can adapt and overcome challenges, traits that he might find appealing to associate with his pets.

Names such as AzeL Eevee Camry, AzeL Shinx Paulie and AzeL Litleo Barley highlight an interest in anime and gaming culture. These names are derived from popular franchises and characters that resonate with fans due to their distinct traits and stories. This naming practice suggests that Lee enjoys the creativity and diversity found in anime and gaming, choosing names that are playful and memorable, which also reflect a modern and youthful spirit.



Names like AzeL Lele Panthera 4U and AzeL Bulu Fatta point to a direct inspiration from the animal kingdom. Such names may be chosen to emphasize certain physical traits or behaviors that the cats share with their wild counterparts, highlighting their natural beauty and grace. This practice underscores a respect for nature and the inherent qualities of these majestic animals.

Raybengal Mentari Langit, AzeL Fini Bayu and others in the nature-themed category reflect a deep appreciation for the natural world. These names evoke elements like the sun, wind and stars, imbuing the cats with a sense of serenity and grandeur. Such choices may stem from a desire to connect with nature and celebrate its wonders, projecting calm and majestic qualities onto the pets.

Only one particular cat, named AzeL Koko Krunch, stands out as a food-themed name, likely chosen for its playful and endearing quality. Naming a cat after a beloved breakfast cereal adds a touch of whimsy and nostalgia, making the name both fun and relatable. This choice indicates a sense of humor and a penchant for names that evoke comfort and joy. People who know Lee well are aware of his fondness for sweet things, which further explains this charming choice.



The diverse naming practices reveal much about the breeder's interests and the attributes he values. Each name is chosen with care and imagination, whether drawing from the vast expanse of space, the rich worlds of fantasy and sci-fi, the vibrant culture of anime and gaming or the beauty of nature. Lee's cats have long, unique names for several reasons. Detailed names help distinguish each cat, which is crucial in the breeding context where individual identity matters. Elaborate names convey a sense of prestige and elegance, enhancing the perceived value and status of the cats. Each name can tell a story or reflect a theme, adding depth and narrative to the cat's identity, appealing to potential buyers. Lastly, unique and memorable names serve as an effective marketing tool, making the cats more attractive and creating a lasting impression.

*Reference*

AzeL Cattery Bengals (2014-current) (n.d.). Home [Facebook page]. Facebook. Retrieved May 27, 2024 from <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10156064325893180&type=3>



AzeL Dewi Senja Tun Teja