

Why do we say “There’s no room to swing a cat”?

This saying dates back to early naval vessels around the time of Admiral Lord Nelson. The “Cat” or “Cat-o-nine tails” refers to a whip used on board, which was too long to be used below deck. The condemned sailors were taken above deck where there was room to swing the cat. The whip was called this because the scars left on the sailors backs were reminiscent of scars left by a savage cat.

Protect your pet with knowledge

Julie Pickering

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