

A Checklist for Moving with Pets

Before Moving

Comfort

- ☐ Prepare carriers, cages, or transport bags
- ☐ Collect favorite toys, bedding, and blankets
- ☐ Gradually acclimate pet to carrier several weeks before moving
- ☐ Create calm environment on moving day
- ☐ Arrange pet sitter or daycare services for dogs/cats
- ☐ If necessary, obtain calming medications
- ☐ Find pet-friendly hotels if traveling long distances
- ☐ Plan short "test trips" to practice transportation

Veterinarian

- ☐ Verify vaccinations and documents are current
- ☐ Obtain medical records and health certificate for travel
- ☐ Stock up on regular and prescription medications
- ☐ Discuss with veterinarian need for sedatives or stress management advice
- ☐ Get recommendations for choosing a new veterinarian at destination

Purchases and Equipment

- ☐ Food and treats for first days after moving
- ☐ Bowls, water containers, collapsible water dishes
- ☐ Leash, waste bags, identification collar with current contact information
- ☐ Absorbent pads, extra towels, pet wipes
- ☐ Car seat covers or hammocks, window shades for vehicle
- ☐ Toys, chew treats, first aid kit for pets
- ☐ Litter and litter box supplies

Documents and Preparation

- ☐ Check animal transport regulations for vehicle (car, plane, train)
- ☐ Complete necessary transportation documents (certificates and photos of pet in case of loss)
- ☐ Learn animal care rules in new area/country
- ☐ Reserve pet space in transportation in advance

After Moving

Comfort

- ☐ Set up quiet area with bed and toys
- ☐ Place familiar items to reduce stress
- ☐ Maintain regular feeding and walking schedule
- ☐ Gradually introduce pet to new home and surroundings
- ☐ Select new sitter, kennel, or daycare services
- ☐ Visit local dog park to meet neighbors

A Checklist for Moving with Pets

Veterinarian

- ☐ Find nearest veterinary clinic and emergency care facility
- ☐ Register with new veterinarian, transfer medical records
- ☐ Schedule preventive checkup and vaccinations if needed
- ☐ Monitor signs of stress: appetite, activity, behavior
- ☐ Get emergency veterinary contact information

Safety and Adaptation

- ☐ Check home for dangerous items, plants, open windows, cables
- ☐ Identify safe areas for walks and exercise
- ☐ Set up food bowls, litter box, and play areas in convenient locations
- ☐ Update address on all documents, food packages, and medications
- ☐ Register pet with local services if required
- ☐ Locate nearby pet stores