



Moving with pets

Whether you're traveling across town or across the country, here are some tips for making moving day as easy and stress-free as possible for the entire family, including your beloved pets.

- Prior to moving day, make sure your pets are fitted with collars and ID tags with your name and current cell-phone number. Microchipping is also recommended and will serve as a backup if your pet loses its collar.
- If your pet is prone to car sickness, make sure you visit your veterinarian a few weeks prior to your move to get any prescribed medications and feeding recommendations.
- For long-distance moves, be sure to identify pet-friendly hotels along your route and reserve rooms ahead of time.
- On moving day, make sure your pets are secured in a crate or closed room of your house or apartment until you are ready to load them into your car. The activities and sounds of moving day will be frightening to your pets, so it is important that they be kept in a secure area to reduce their stress as much as possible and to prevent an accidental escape.
- Always transport cats, small dogs and other small animals in a secure, well-ventilated pet carrier. Keep larger dogs leashed and under control at all times. The stress of a move can cause even the most obedient dog to run away in unfamiliar surroundings. NEVER transport any pet in an open truck bed, trunk of a car or storage area of a moving van.
- For long-distance moves, make sure you give your pet potty breaks and fresh water whenever you stop for a break yourself. Make sure pets are leashed at all times during potty breaks.

Your New Home

- **Prepare Your New Home:** Pets love familiar surroundings so be sure to take with you all the familiar and necessary things your pet will need from day one in your new home.
- **Keep them Leashed:** Even pets that are excellent under voice control can be easily distracted in a new environment. Therefore, make sure that your pet is leashed when not in the house or yard until they become comfortable with their new surroundings.
- **Secure Pet During Move-In:** It would be ideal to have your belongings moved in to your new home before your pet arrives, however, this isn't always realistic. If this not doable, follow the same procedures employed on move-out day - place your pet in a safe, quiet place, such as the bathroom or pet carrier on moving day so that he or she cannot escape. If you place your pet in a room, place a large sign on the door that says "Do Not Enter." Containing your pet in a pet carrier on moving day will keep them safely confined as well. And again, be sure to maintain their regular feeding, walking, and potty break schedule.
- **Pet Photo:** Have a recent photo of your pet on hand in the unfortunate event that your pet runs off while moving into your new home.