



Pet Owners: Tips to Make Your Move Easier

Moving can be hard on everyone involved. Adults, kids, and yes even your pets. While your pet may not understand exactly what is going on, they can sense the stress (good or bad) that the whole family is experiencing. Add to that the fact that animals are creatures of habit and do not like changes to their usual routine. We created the following list of tips to help make your move easier on your pets.

During The Packing Process

- Try to keep your pets daily routine as close to normal as possible. Adhering to his/her usual feeding, exercise, and bedtime schedule is important.
- When packing, leave your pets belongings to last. If possible, allow your pet continued access to his same food dishes, litter box, pet bed, and toys right up until moving day.
- Lessen the chances of there being any “mistakes” by keeping your cat’s litter box in the usual spot, right up until you load him into your car - or until you confine him to a “transition room”.
- Leave a couple of empty packing boxes open on the floor for your pet to explore. Allowing your pet to familiarize himself with these new, strange objects will prevent him from being afraid of them.

On Moving Day

- It is best to remove your pets from the house BEFORE you start moving your possessions. Allowing your pets to roam free in the house while the front door is propped wide open, and people are rushing in and out lugging boxes and furniture - just creates a recipe for disaster.
- If it is not possible to remove your pets beforehand, then you should select an empty room with a door to safely house them for the day.
- Be sure to put collars with identification tags on your dogs and cats, as many pets do escape during the confusion of moving day.
- For transportation to the new home, cats should be placed in a cat carrier on the floor of the back seat and dogs should be properly restrained. Never leave your pet unattended in a vehicle.

For more information on how to make moving easier on your pets please contact your veterinarian for advice.