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Simple Ways to Help Your Pet Transition Smoothly Into a New Home

Whether you have a dog or a cat, chances are your furry family member is quite a stickler for their routine. So, when you've decided to move homes, considering their well-being throughout the process is important. Keeping them as stress-free as possible not only will help them feel better about the transition, but it will also reduce the likelihood of them exhibiting strange and even aggressive behavior due to fear.

In short, everyone will be happier and safer if your pet feels comfortable during the move and is able to settle into the new home smoothly. Since the well-being of pets is the core of our existence here at [Animal Rescue Family](#), our guide provides you with some practical tips for helping your precious fur-baby stay calm and at ease during your move.

Prepare them for change.

Both dogs and cats are known to struggle with change. Depending on age and breed, among other factors, some pets will respond more drastically than others. Whatever kind of pet you have, however, it's important to prepare them adequately for the changes coming.

For example, if your dog or cat will be using a travel carrier, help them get [used to it](#) for at least a week before your move. Set the carrier out in your home with a comfortable bed inside (and maybe the occasional treat), and allow them to approach the carrier at leisure. Then, begin feeding your pet in the carrier until they become comfortable being in there.

Another way you can help prepare your pet for moving is to set out packing boxes and other [packing materials](#) in the home a couple of weeks before moving. And try to maintain their [routine](#) as much as possible, including feeding, playtimes, and walks.

Pack an essentials box.

As you prepare for moving day, be sure to pack a box of essential items for your pet, especially if they will be traveling long-distance. These items might include a leash, a [harness](#), a collar, food, bowls, [toys](#), and bedding that is familiar to your pet.

Since you'll be busy enough preparing for your relocation, look into delivery services that can send pet supplies straight to your door (at the old and/or new home). Not only will this add convenience and save you time, but you will have a lot of [great choices](#) when it comes to cat food—from traditional dry or wet food to tasty, fresh food.

Consider them on moving day.

Once moving day arrives, reduce your pet's food intake by a third. This will help them feel more comfortable during their travels and decrease their likelihood of experiencing motion sickness. Also, try to remain calm amid the busyness and stress of moving, as your dog or cat may be prone to act out on your anxiety if you display it. And if you think your pet is going to be stressed out while everything is being moved out and/or in, consider hiring a pet sitter or asking a family member to [watch them](#) until you get moved into the new home.

Examine the new home.

Once you get to the new home, inspect it for any pet hazards. For example, look for any holes in the backyard fence, poisonous plants on the property, and exposed electrical cords inside and outside of the home. Look for any pest control chemicals, cleaning supplies, or any other potentially harmful [products](#) possibly left behind by the home's previous owners. Moreover, make sure you have a thorough grasp of your home's layout so that you can pinpoint any areas where your pet may hide. Cats are especially prone to hiding when they're stressed, so to help yours adjust to your new home, it's a good idea to put them in a quiet, small area to start rather

than let them freely roam the whole house. That way, they'll be contained in a safe space where they can get used to the sounds and smell of the home, which will help them stay calm once they start exploring the whole abode.

Moving can be as hard on our furry companions as it is on us. Take steps to adequately prepare your dog or cat for your upcoming move, and put together a box of essential items your pet may need for the transition. Lastly, keep your pet's needs in mind on moving day, and be sure to inspect your new home for any potential hazards before you let them run free. Implementing these tips will help you ensure the safety and well-being of your pet throughout the moving process.

Are you looking to adopt a pet or help a pet find a loving home? Contact [Animal Rescue Family](#) today! (515) 395-1527