

Moving the Menagerie



Dear Homeowner,

Moving can be stressful for you and your family members, but it's especially hard for pets who have no idea why their world has been suddenly disrupted.

These tips assume you are moving your pet by car. If you need to transport your pet on an airplane, check carefully with the airline and your veterinarian for restrictions and precautions.

- Before you move, get a copy of your pet's complete medical history, a certificate signed by the veterinarian stating the pet is in good health and a sheet stating when and where the pet was vaccinated for rabies.
- If your pet is a dog, try to bring her to the new neighborhood a few times before the move to get her acquainted with the area. Take her for a walk where you think you will be doing that activity after the move.
- On moving day make sure your pet is wearing some kind of I.D. tag with your new address and phone number.
- Pack your pet's bed, toys, brush, dishes and bottled water. You'll need a leash and collar as well as a scoop and bag for cleanups after roadside exercise breaks.
- Feed your pet at least two or three hours before you leave and keep its meals light during the trip. If the pet suffers from motion sickness, your veterinarian may be able to provide something to help.
- Plan short rest stops for at least every three hours, plus a couple of play periods each day. Never leave your pet in an unventilated car or for more than a few minutes in a ventilated one.
- Unpack your pet's things as soon as you can. Make sure the pet knows where it's new feeding and sleeping areas are.
- If your pet's behavior alters dramatically in the first few days, chalk it up to the stress of moving. If problems persist, contact a veterinarian.

For more moving tips, call Jim Casey at 781-775-5937.



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