



Cat Travel Tips

Cats can be especially tuned to the environment and to their owners' moods. To help your cat have a good trip, follow these travel tips:

Before the Trip

If possible, let your cat become accustomed to its crate. Putting a special tidbit inside can be a good way of helping a pet associate the crate with good things. Make a very comfortable, tempting bed inside the crate, and place the crate in a favorite sleeping area. Some cats like to look down on you, so try putting the crate up on a high surface, such as the top of your refrigerator. Don't close the cat into the crate just yet. Instead, leave the crate door open to allow your cat to explore the crate and sniff it inside and out – and perhaps discover that this can be a comfortable place to take a nap.

Cats can be especially sensitive to change, and when their normal environment begins to alter, instinct often tells them to find a new home. To avoid losing your pet before moving, keep your cat indoors. Remember that when movers and other people are working in your home, doors are often left open.

At Pick-Up Time

The way you act at pick-up time is crucial to how your cat feels. Be as upbeat as you can and convey a sense of confidence. A lengthy, emotional departure will cause your pet unnecessary anxiety.

Preventing Escape

Cats often choose pick-up day to vacate the premises!

Please confine your cat to a small room to prevent escape.

Food

Make sure the cat has access to litter and water at all times, but please remove food four to six hours before pick-up time. Please prepare two portions of your cat's food in two separate plastic bags. We will attach these portions to the outside of the crate at pick-up time, and they will be available in the event that your cat's trip is delayed.

Bedding

If you wish to provide bedding for your cat's comfort and security, please do. We recommend a small blanket or towel. Please don't use a large bed that could become hot and uncomfortable, and don't include heavy items that could be dangerous in the event of turbulence. A small blanket that smells of home is fine, but avoid blankets with holes or a loose weave since these can become caught in the cat's paws and cause distress.

At Your New Home

Cats can be disoriented by travel, and they may try to run away, so please do not open your cat's crate until you are home. Carry the crate inside and close the door before releasing the cat.

You can help your cat adapt by returning to your normal routine as soon as possible. Offer drinking water and a light meal right away, but don't be surprised if your cat doesn't want to eat immediately.

Cats often need time to adjust, so allow your cat a separate room with food, water and litter for two to eight days after arrival.



Dog Travel Tips

Most dogs cope very well with air travel, and owners are often happy to see their dog is on arrival at their new home. To help your dog have a good trip, follow these travel tips:

Before the Trip

Pets can be sensitive to change. Try to stick to your usual routine and keep your dog's life as normal as possible. Maintain the usual schedule of meals and exercise. If possible, let your dog become accustomed to its crate. Putting a special tidbit inside can be a good way of helping a pet associate the crate with good things. Make a very comfortable, tempting bed inside the crate, too. Don't close the dog into the crate just yet. Instead, leave the crate door open to allow your dog to explore the crate and sniff it inside and out – and perhaps discover that this can be a comfortable place to take a nap.

At Pick-Up Time

The way you act at pick-up time is crucial to how your dog feels. Be as upbeat as you can and convey a sense of confidence. A lengthy, emotional departure will cause your pet unnecessary anxiety.

Food

Try to keep to your usual schedule of meals and exercise, but avoid giving a large meal shortly before departure. A light meal approximately four to six hours before flight time is good, and an exercise session will promote a bowel movement and help your dog relax during transit. Please prepare two portions of your dog's food in two separate plastic bags. We will attach these portions to the outside of the crate at pick-up time, and they will be available in the event that your dog's trip is delayed.

Bedding

If you wish to provide bedding for your pet's comfort and security, please do. We recommend a small blanket or towel. Please don't use a large bed that could become hot and uncomfortable, and don't include large bones or other heavy items that could be dangerous in the event of turbulence. A small blanket that smells of home is fine, but avoid blankets with holes or a loose weave since these can become caught in the dog's paws and cause distress. Please do not use "wee wee pads" (e.g., bed liners) as the plastic lining may be shredded and ingested by your pet, potentially causing illness.

At Your New Home

You can help your pet adapt by resuming your normal routine as soon as possible. Offer drinking water and a light meal as soon as you reach your new home, but don't be surprised if your dog doesn't want to eat right away. Resume your normal schedule of feeding and exercising as soon as you can.