

The Easy Pet Moving Checklist

Moving to a new home is difficult, but when you have animals that you are moving with you, then things become that much more difficult. The experts here know that there will be many things to worry about, so they have created this easy to follow checklist to help keep you, and your move, on track to success. No matter what pet, or combination of pets, you have, you can make sure they have everything they need to make it to a new home without trouble.

Easy Pet Moving Checklist	
X	Print a copy of the Easy Pet Moving Checklist and keep it on hand.
	Choose which method of moving you will be using, including the use of any pet moving companies or specialty shippers.
	Plan for a place for your pet to be on moving day so that it is not in the way of the movers.
	Research the laws of your new city and determine that your pet is legal there and find out what shots or requirements you need to meet in order to comply with their laws.
	Make an appointment with your vet to get a final checkup. Be sure to get medications that your pet might need for the trip as well as a copy of their medical records for your new vet.
	Ensure the information on your pet's identification tags is up to date. Keep a recent picture on hand just in case your pet is lost.
	Keep your pet's routine as normal as possible by feeding and giving them water about the same time each day throughout the move.
	Purchase a carrier or container that will be used to move your pet. Make sure it meets the requirements of how you plan on moving your animal to your new home.
Moving Pets by Air	
	Check with your chosen airline to ensure that they allow your kind of pet. Book passage when you book your own ticket.
	Ensure that your carrier meets the specifications outlined by the airline.
	Mark the container your pet is traveling in as 'Fragile! Live Animal' and 'This Side Up' so that the handlers can see it clearly.
	Do not feed or give your pet water for a few hours before the flight.
	Be sure to exercise your pet before they are checked into the airline's cargo hold. If you are able to take your animal in the cabin with you, ensure that they are settled before you go through security.
	Be aware of situations where the airline may refuse to allow your pet aboard such as temperature extremes or an improper container.

Moving Pets by Car	
	Avoid feeding your pet for a few hours before the trip. This prevents car sickness.
	Plan for a place where the carrier will fit and be out of the way. Try taking your animal on some short trips before the move so they are used to the method of travel.
	Plan plenty of stops along the way to give your pet exercise and water.
	Plan to maintain an even temperature in the car throughout the trip. Animals, especially small ones, are often sensitive to temperature changes and extremes.
	Never leave your animal in the vehicle on their own, especially in the summer. Temperatures in the vehicle can easily rise to fatal levels in minutes in some states.
	Ensure that your animal is contained so they do not pose a safety hazard while you are driving.
Overnight Stays	
	Pack pre-measured meals for your pet for each day that you will be on the road.
	Pack a small container or 'travel box' for each pet and include all of the essential items that you will need on the road such as dishes, leashes, toys, and medications.
	Seek out and plan your route around pet friendly hotels located along the way to your new home.
	Keep important paperwork on hand in case there are any questions or issues that arise along the way.
	Leave a note for the new occupants with your new address on it so that they can send you anything you might have forgotten or send you any mail that ends up at the old address.
	Do a final walkthrough to make sure everything has been loaded onto the truck.
	Review all paperwork carefully before you sign it.
	Lock up and turn in your keys!