

Trampoline Movers

Moving with Pets – A Complete Checklist

■ Tips to keep pets safe and stress-free before, during, and after the move ■

Before moving – Comfort and routine

- Prepare a carrier, crate, or travel bag sized so the pet can stand, turn, and lie down comfortably.
- Place favorite toys, bedding, and an unwashed T-shirt inside to build familiarity.
- Start carrier acclimation 2–4 weeks ahead; feed treats inside and take brief practice rides.
- Create a quiet room for moving day; use white noise and a 'Do Not Disturb' sign.
- Arrange a trusted pet sitter, daycare, or a separate room during loading.
- Discuss calming aids with a veterinarian; test any supplements or medications in advance.
- Book pet-friendly hotels on long trips and plan rest stops every 2–3 hours.
- Do short 'test trips' to check motion comfort and crate tolerance.

Before moving – Veterinarian and documents

- Verify core vaccinations and parasite prevention are current; note due dates.
- Obtain medical records and, if applicable, a health certificate within required timeframes.
- Refill prescriptions and secure a 2–4 week medication buffer.
- Ask the vet about sedation alternatives and travel stress strategies.
- Request recommendations for a new veterinarian near the destination.

Before moving – Purchases and equipment

- Pack 7–10 days of food, treats, and bottled water to avoid stomach upset.
- Bring bowls, collapsible water dishes, and a spill-proof container.
- Leash, harness, ID collar with current phone/email; microchip number on file.
- Absorbent pads, extra towels, grooming wipes, lint roller.
- Car seat covers or hammocks, window shades, and seatbelt tether or crash-tested crate.
- Toys, chew items, puzzle feeders, and a pet first aid kit.
- Litter, litter box, liners, scoop, and disposal bags for cats.

Before moving – Documents and preparation

- Check transport rules for car, airline, or rail; confirm crate standards and seasonal embargoes.
- Complete travel documents; keep photos of the pet and microchip details handy.
- Review local bylaws, licensing, breed or species restrictions, and quarantine rules.
- Reserve pet space with carriers or airlines early; confirm connections and temperatures.

Moving day tips

- Feed a light meal 3–4 hours before departure; avoid new foods.
- Walk dogs for exercise before loading; offer litter access for cats well ahead.
- Keep pets in a secured, ventilated space away from open doors and movers.
- Never place pets in the cargo area of a moving truck; use a climate-controlled vehicle.

After moving – Comfort and routine

- Set up a quiet 'landing zone' with bed, water, familiar toys, and a hideaway.
- Unpack pet essentials first to anchor routine.
- Keep feeding, walks, and play on the same schedule as before.
- Gradually introduce new rooms and then the yard or neighborhood.
- Line up a local sitter, kennel, or daycare; schedule meet-and-greet time.
- Visit a nearby dog park at off-peak hours to ease social transition.

After moving – Veterinarian and healthcare

- Identify the nearest veterinary clinic and 24/7 emergency hospital.
- Register with a new vet; transfer records and schedule a preventive checkup.
- Monitor appetite, sleep, elimination, and behavior for stress signs over 2–3 weeks.
- Save emergency contacts in a visible place and phone favorites.

After moving – Safety and adaptation

- Pet-proof the home: secure cords, windows, balconies, plants, and cleaning chemicals.
- Choose safe walking routes and shaded rest spots; map out potty areas.
- Place food/water bowls, litter box, and play stations in low-traffic areas.
- Update microchip registry, tags, license, and address on prescriptions and insurance.
- Register where required; locate nearby pet stores, groomers, and trainers.

Extras for special situations

- Small animals/birds: stabilize temperature, cover carriers partially, and minimize drafts.
- Reptiles/fish: maintain heat sources and transport water safely; consult species guidelines.
- Seniors or anxious pets: shorter travel intervals, extra bedding, and pheromone sprays.
- Multi-pet households: introduce spaces and routines one pet at a time to reduce conflict.

Ready-to-pack pet go-bag

- Food and collapsible bowls
- Bottled water and treats
- Medications and copies of vet records
- Leash, harness, ID tags, and microchip info
- Waste bags, pads, wipes, towels
- First-aid kit and favorite comfort item
- Spare litter setup for cats

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