# **Step 1: Visit the Veterinarian**

Start by scheduling a vet appointment before your move.

- Make sure vaccinations and health records are up to date.
- Ask for documentation if you're crossing state lines.
- Get advice on handling stress, especially for nervous or older pets.
- Request recommendations for veterinary clinics in your new area.

### **Step 2: Prepare Travel Plans**

Every animal has different travel needs. Consider what's best for their safety and comfort.

- For short moves, a secure carrier or crate is usually enough.
- For long-distance moves, research airline or pet transport requirements.
- Make sure your pet's carrier has proper ventilation and is large enough for movement.
- Keep identification tags with current contact details attached to collars.

### Step 3: Pack a Pet Essentials Bag

Just like people, pets need their own travel essentials. Pack a small bag with:

- Food, water, and travel bowls.
- Leash, waste bags, and a favorite toy or blanket.
- Medications or supplements (if needed).
- Treats and a towel or mat for comfort.

Keep this bag handy so you can easily access everything during your journey and first night in the new home.

### **Step 4: Keep Pets Safe on Moving Day**

The hustle and noise of moving day can easily scare pets.

 Place them in a quiet, secure room away from the activity—or ask a friend to watch them for the day.

- Avoid letting them roam freely while movers are loading and unloading.
- Keep carriers labeled and easy to access for travel.

Safety and calm are key to minimizing stress during departure.

## **Step 5: Settle Them into the New Home**

Once you arrive, give your pets time to explore safely.

- Set up a familiar space with their bed, toys, and food bowls.
- Keep their routine as consistent as possible—regular feeding, playtime, and walks.
- Allow them to adjust gradually to new rooms or outdoor areas.

Cats, in particular, may take a few days to adapt. Keep them indoors until they feel comfortable and secure in the new environment.

### **Step 6: Update Pet Information**

Don't forget about identification updates.

- Change your address on pet microchip records and ID tags.
- Register with a local veterinarian as soon as you settle in.
- If you use a pet-sitting or walking service, provide your new contact details.

### **Step 7: Watch for Signs of Stress**

It's normal for pets to act differently in a new space. Some may hide, refuse food, or bark more often. Give them patience, attention, and reassurance. If anxiety continues, check with your veterinarian for additional support or calming solutions.

## **Contacts 4 My Moving**

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