



Moving With Cats



Moving with cats can be challenging, but with the right approach, you can minimize stress for both you and your feline friend. Here are some tips and tricks for moving with cats

- 1. Gradual Introduction to Carriers:** Start getting your cat comfortable with their carrier well before moving day by leaving it out with treats and toys inside. Many cats are not used to being in carriers let alone in cars also so getting them used to both can be very advantageous.
- 2. Update ID Information:** Make sure your cat's ID tags and microchip information are updated with your new address and contact details before the move, just in case they get lost.
- 3. Quiet Room on Moving Day:** Set up a quiet, safe room in your current home on moving day where your cat can stay away from the chaos of packing and moving. It is also a good idea to board them if you are worried about them running away.
- 4. Packing Essentials:** Pack a separate bag with your cat's essentials, including food, water, litter, litter box, toys, and bedding, to have easily accessible during the move. Also make sure it is clearly & brightly marked so it doesn't get loaded in the truck.
- 5. Safe Travel Arrangements:** When traveling to your new home, secure your cat in a well-ventilated carrier with familiar bedding and provide breaks for food, water, and litter box use.
- 6. Familiarizing with New Space:** Upon arrival at the new home, set up a quiet room with your cat's belongings to allow them to acclimate to the new environment gradually. Make out a little time throughout the day to spend moments with your cat and give them treats.
- 7. Scent Familiarization:** Use familiar scents, such as bedding or toys from the old home, to help your cat feel more at ease in the new environment.
- 8. Exploration at Own Pace:** Allow your cat to explore their new surroundings at their own pace, keeping doors and windows closed initially to prevent them from escaping. Expose them slowly to each room of the house.
- 9. Reestablish Routine:** Stick to your cat's regular feeding, play, and grooming routines as much as possible to provide stability during the transition and avoid accidents in your new home.
- 10. Patience and Reassurance:** Be patient with your cat as they adjust to their new home, offering plenty of reassurance, attention, and affection along the way. Life gets really busy when you are settling in, but that attention you give your cat won't go misplaced.
- 11. Identification and Supervision:** Keep your cat indoors for the first few weeks in the new home to prevent them from getting lost, and supervise outdoor time once they're more familiar with the area. Cats have a tendency to want to try to find their way back to your old home and territory. If they are outdoor cats then getting used to the other cats in the neighborhood will be important and will help you identify any new predators in your area like owls, foxes, etc.



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Moving with cats requires patience, understanding, and careful planning, but with these tips, you can help minimize stress and ensure a successful transition to your new home

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12. Monitoring Health: Keep an eye on your cat's behavior and appetite during the adjustment period, and consult with a veterinarian if you notice any signs of stress or illness. Doing some of the other suggestions should help with issues here.

13. Feliway or Pheromone Products: Consider using Feliway diffusers or calming pheromone sprays to help reduce stress and anxiety in your cat during the move and adjustment period.

14. Maintain Consistency: Keep your cat's feeding schedule, litter box location, and other routines consistent throughout the moving process and in the new home to provide a sense of stability.

15. Secure Escape Routes: Check windows and doors for potential escape routes in your new home and make necessary adjustments to ensure your cat's safety.

16. Cat-Proofing: Before letting your cat roam freely in the new home, cat-proof any hazardous areas such as exposed electrical cords, toxic plants, or small spaces where they could get stuck. If moving to a new state it might be good to google what plants are harmful to cats in your new area.

17. Encourage Exploration: Use treats, toys, and interactive play to encourage your cat to explore their new surroundings and associate positive experiences with the new home.

18. Introduction to Other Pets: If you have other pets, introduce them to your cat gradually and under supervision to ensure a smooth transition for all animals involved. Sometimes under stress cats can lash out at pets and people. So keeping their stress down and doing things gradually can help with that.

19. Monitoring Stress Signs: Watch for signs of stress in your cat, such as hiding, excessive grooming, or loss of appetite, and provide comfort and support as needed.

20. Seek Veterinary Advice: If your cat is particularly anxious or having difficulty adjusting to the move, consult with your veterinarian for additional advice and support. Before you move you need to have the contact number of your vet in the area of your new home. Another great source of information will be from a local small pet store. They are more knowledgeable than you would think.

