

**MUST-DO  
STEPS** for a  
**HAPPY MOVE**

*Moving with Pets*

✔ Checklist



**BUYING**

**SELLING**

**RELOCATION**



# MUST-DO STEPS for a HAPPY MOVE

## Moving with Pets

Moving is stressful for both you and your pets!

With careful planning and consideration of their needs, you can help reduce the stress level for both of you. So...keep an eye out for the signals that your pet is sending and help them adjust to their new home - smoothly, safely and comfortably.

### What's Inside:

- **When Buying** - Moving to a new home
- Checklist for Buying
- **When Selling** - When your house is on the market
- Checklist for Selling
- What to do **if your Pet Escapes**
- Checklist for Pet Escapes
- Blank Checklist that you can personalize

WHEN SELLING		
1	Remove pets from the home during showings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Crate or confine if you can't remove them to a safe, secure area	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Let Realtor®/potential buyers know about pets before they enter	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Bonus Tip from one pet-lover to another!**

*When possible, take your pet to "visit" the new home before you make the move - multiple short visits are even better! And introduce yourself and your pets to your new neighbors **as soon as you can.***

# Moving with Pets

## When You're Buying

When moving to your next home, remember that each pet is unique, and their reactions to moving can vary. Try to observe and adapt to their needs, and if your pet experiences severe anxiety or behavioral issues consider consulting a professional veterinarian or animal behaviorist for additional support. In the end, the **important thing is the well-being and comfort of your pets**. Here are some of the top recommendations when it's time to move:

1. Update ID Tags and Microchips - Before the move, make sure your pet's ID tags and microchip information are updated with your new contact details. Also check their collar to be sure they can't easily slip out of it and their tags are visible on their collar.
2. Visit the Veterinarian - Schedule a visit to the vet to get a health check-up for your pets and obtain their medical records. Also, ask for any necessary medications or sedatives if your pets are anxious during travel.
3. Acclimate Pets to Carriers - If your pets will be traveling in carriers, acclimate them to the carriers gradually by leaving them open and adding treats or toys inside.
4. Pet-Friendly Moving Company - If using a moving company, choose one with experience in handling pets and inquire about their pet policies.
5. Keep Familiar Items - Bring your pet's familiar bedding, toys, and food dishes to the new home to provide a sense of comfort and familiarity.
6. Plan Pet-Proofing - Pet-proof the new home before the move by checking for potential hazards and securing fences if necessary.
7. Keep Pets Away During Move - On moving day, keep your pets in a safe and quiet room with their essentials, away from the hustle and bustle.
8. Research Pet-Friendly Areas - Familiarize yourself with nearby pet-friendly parks, walking trails, and veterinary clinics in your new neighborhood.

*Continued*

# Moving with Pets

## When You're Buying - continued

9. Take pets to "visit" the new home before you make the move. If you can make multiple, short visits - even better! Start setting up a safe zone area.

10. Make Gradual Introductions - If you're moving into a shared living space, introduce your pets gradually, before the move, to any existing humans and pets in the newly-formed household.

11. Monitor Behavior - During and after the move, closely monitor your pets' behavior for signs of stress or anxiety, and provide reassurance and comfort.

12. Maintain Regular Routine - Stick to your pet's regular feeding and exercise schedule as much as possible, even during the chaos of moving.

13. Update Emergency Contacts - Update your pet's emergency contact information with your new local animal shelter or rescue organization.

14. Pet-Proof During Unpacking - Be careful during the unpacking process (which usually continues long after the movers are gone) to keep items that could be harmful to pets.

15. Exploration Time - Allow your pets to explore their new surroundings gradually, starting with small, supervised outings.

Our pets take their cues from us – if you can maintain a calm energy, they will be more likely to have confidence that they will be okay, and you can help them adjust to their new home smoothly and comfortably.

### **Bonus Tip:**

*Don't forget about your online services – especially if you have auto-delivery!  
Change the shipping information well in advance of your next order.*

# Moving with Pets

## BUYING CHECKLIST

No	WHEN BUYING - THE MOVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	Update Microchip / ID Tags / pet collar	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	VET Visit - Health Checkup	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meds</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Referral to Vet in destination</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Get their records and Update with new contact info</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Acclimate Pets to Carriers	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Pet-Friendly Moving Company	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Bring familiar bedding, toys, food dishes	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Pet-proof the new home before the move	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Keep Pets Away During Move - create a safe zone for them	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Research new area for nearby pet-friendly parks, walking trails	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Take pets to "visit" the new home before you make the move	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Make Gradual Introductions If moving into shared living space	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Monitor Behavior for signs of stress/anxiety during & after the move	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Maintain Regular Routine, feeding and exercise schedule	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Update Emergency Contact info at new local animal shelter/rescue org.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Pet-Proof During Unpacking to keep harmful items away from pets	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Allow pets to explore surroundings slowly, start small, supervised outings	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Change shipping info for online services	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		<input type="checkbox"/>
18		<input type="checkbox"/>

# Moving with Pets



## When You're Selling

When selling your home, it's important to consider the well-being and comfort of your pets, while creating a positive impression for potential buyers. Here are some of the top recommendations to best handle your pets when your home is for sale:

1. Remove pets from the home during showings (no matter how cute they are!) The best way to keep your pets safe during showings is to remove them from the home entirely. Consider having them stay with a trusted friend or family member or boarding them at a reputable pet boarding facility. If you can't remove them, consider crating or confining them to a safe and secure area. Take every precaution to help prevent them from escaping or getting into areas of the home that could be dangerous for them.

2. Inform your real estate agent - Let your Realtor® know that you have pets in the house, and ask them to inform potential buyers before they enter. This will help prevent any surprises or possible allergic reactions.

3. Minimize stress - Keep your pets calm during showings by providing toys, treats, and a comfortable area to rest. Consider playing calming music or using a pheromone diffuser to help reduce anxiety.

4. Clean up after your pets - Be sure to clean up any pet messes immediately, and remove any evidence of pets such as food bowls, litter boxes, and toys.

5. Temporary Relocation: If possible, consider temporarily relocating your pets to a friend or family member's home, a boarding facility, or a pet-friendly hotel. This reduces stress for your pets and makes it easier for potential buyers to view your home without distractions.

6. Deep Cleaning: Before listing your home, thoroughly clean and deodorize areas where your pets spend time to remove any lingering odors or pet hair. This includes carpets, furniture, and bedding.

*Continued*

# Moving with Pets



## When You're Selling - continued

7. Repair Damages: Repair any damages caused by your pets, such as scratches on doors or chewed furniture. A well-maintained home will leave a better impression on potential buyers.

8. Remove Traces: During showings or open houses, remove all signs of your pets, including their toys, food bowls, litter boxes, and bedding. Store them away to keep the house looking clean and inviting.

9. Secure Outdoor Pets: If you have outdoor pets, ensure they are safely contained in a secure area or consider taking them on leashed walks during showings to avoid any issues with potential buyers who might not be comfortable around animals.

10. Mind the Yard: Clean up after your pets regularly to keep the yard clean and free of any waste. A well-maintained outdoor space will leave a positive impression.

11. Showcase Pet-Friendly Features: If your home has pet-friendly features, such as a fenced yard or pet doors, consider highlighting these in marketing materials as they can be attractive to pet owners.

If buyers express interest in the property and have pets, provide them with information about nearby pet-friendly amenities like parks, veterinary clinics, and pet supply stores.

*Remember, the goal is to create a **positive, welcoming environment** for potential buyers while ensuring **your pets' safety and well-being** during the home-selling process. By following these suggestions, you can help reduce stress for both pets and potential buyers.*

# Moving with Pets

## WHEN YOU'RE SELLING CHECKLIST



№	WHEN SELLING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	Remove pets from the home during showings	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Crate or confine If you can't remove them to a safe, secure area	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Let Realtor®/potential buyers know about pets before they enter	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Keep pets calm, minimize stress, during showings with toys, treats	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Clean up any pet messes, remove food bowls, litter boxes, toys	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Temporary Relocation to friend/family, boarding facility, pet-friendly hotel	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Deep Clean and deodorize before listing, remove any odors or pet hair	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Repair any damages caused by your pets, scratches/chewed furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Secure Outdoor Pets safely, or walk them during showings	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Keep yard clean, free of any waste	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Showcase Pet-Friendly Features such as fenced yard or pet doors	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		<input type="checkbox"/>
13		<input type="checkbox"/>
14		<input type="checkbox"/>
15		<input type="checkbox"/>
16		<input type="checkbox"/>
17		<input type="checkbox"/>
18		<input type="checkbox"/>
19		<input type="checkbox"/>
20		<input type="checkbox"/>



# Moving with Pets



## What to do if Your Pet Escapes

If your pet escapes and runs away during the moving process, you must **ACT QUICKLY!**

1. Search the Area - Start searching the immediate area where your pet was last seen at once. Call their name and listen for any responses.
2. Notify People Nearby - Inform neighbors and anyone in the vicinity about your missing pet, and leave your contact info with everyone.
3. Posters - Create and post flyers with your pet's photo, your contact information, and the last seen location. Distribute everywhere.
4. Use Scent Trails - Leave familiar items like bedding or clothing with your scent outside your home to create a scent trail that can help guide them back.
5. Use Social Media - Share photos and description of your missing pet on social media platforms. Local community groups and lost pet pages can also be helpful. Spreading the word!
6. Contact Animal Shelters and Rescues - Call local animal shelters, animal control agencies, and rescues to report your pet missing. Provide a detailed description of your pet and your contact information.
7. Use Online Pet-Finding Services - Register your pet as missing on websites and apps dedicated to finding lost pets. These platforms may alert nearby users to be on the lookout.
8. Offer a Reward - Consider offering a reward for your pet's safe return to encourage people to actively look for and report sightings.
9. Check Safe Spots - Look in nearby hiding spots, under decks, bushes, or in any safe area where your pet might seek refuge.

*Continued.*

# Moving with Pets



## What to do if Your Pet Escapes - continued

10. Stay Positive and Persistent - Don't give up hope. Continue searching and networking with others until you locate your pet.
11. Use Food and Familiar Sounds - Leave food and water bowls outside your home, and play familiar sounds like a favorite toy's squeak to attract your pet back.
12. Be Cautious - If your pet is found, approach with caution and avoid making sudden movements. Lost pets can be scared and may run away if startled.
13. Update Your Search Strategy - If your search efforts aren't successful, try taking a different approach based on any new information or sightings.
14. Microchip and ID Tags - Refer back to the first item on our Buying list - Make sure your pet has a microchip with updated contact info and that they wear a collar with readable ID tags displaying your phone number.

**Remember**, the sooner you act and the more people you involve in the search, the higher the chances of finding your pet safe and sound. Even more reason to take preventative measures to ensure your pet's safety during the move - keep them securely contained and supervised.



*Enjoy Your Pets & Keep them Safe!*

*Norma Wall, Broker*



# Moving with Pets

## IF YOUR PET ESCAPES CHECKLIST



No	IF YOUR PET ESCAPES CHECKLIST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	Act Fast - Search the immediate area	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Notify people nearby	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Create Posters	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Use Scent Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Use Social Media	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Contact Animal Shelters and Rescues	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Use Online Pet-Finding Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Offer a reward	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Check Safe Spots	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Stay Positive and Persistent	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Use Food and Familiar Sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Be Cautious	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Update Your Search Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Microchip and ID Tags	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		<input type="checkbox"/>
16		<input type="checkbox"/>
17		<input type="checkbox"/>
18		<input type="checkbox"/>
19		<input type="checkbox"/>
20		<input type="checkbox"/>

# Moving with Pets

## MAKE YOUR OWN CHECKLIST

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

№	ACTIVITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1		<input type="checkbox"/>
2		<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>
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