



Moving Pets

CHOOSE A MOVING METHOD

Hire a professional pet moving service or make your own arrangements with the airline. Some rail companies will accept pets but only if the owner is travelling on the same train. Take them with you in your car if you are driving to your new home.

GENERAL TIPS

If your pet suffers from motion sickness obtain medication from your vet. Make sure you have a proper travel container even if you are transporting by car. The cage should have adequate cross ventilation, a leak proof bottom, secure closing latch and be big enough for your pet to stand up and turn around. Obtain cage in advance so your pet can get used to it at home. Put their favourite blanket and toy inside.

BY CAR – DOGS & CATS

If your pet is not used to being in a car, take it on short rides to help it accustom to the motion. Do not feed or give water to your pet during the 2 hours prior to departure. Feed only once daily while you are on the road. Take a supply of water from home as using different water can cause stomach upset.

FISH

If shipping by air fish should be packed in plastic containers equipped with battery operated aerators and placed in strong boxes. Do not feed your fish for 2 days before shipping. If you are transporting fish in plastic bags in the car do not put them in direct sunlight or cold drafts. Keep the bag in a dark spot if possible as fish use less oxygen in the dark.

TURTLES

The easiest pet to transport. Pack in well cushioned Styrofoam boxes. Put air holes in the Styrofoam box and line it with soft grasses or leaves. The Styrofoam box should be big enough so the turtle can extend its legs or head. Place a damp cloth inside the container. On a long trip spray the turtles with water using a spray bottle.

HAMSTERS, GERBILES, GUINEA PIGS & MICE

Small animals are sensitive to hot and cold temperatures. Use your own comfort zone as a guide – If you are too hot or cold, your small pets will be too. Remove the water and food dishes to avoid messy spills while the car is moving. Stop to feed and water small pets along the way on long trips. Bring a supply of water from home to avoid stomach upsets.

AFTER THE MOVE

Like people, pets need time to become accustomed to new surroundings. Keep cats restricted to 1-2 rooms until they get used to the new sounds/smell. Keep cats indoors for 2-3 weeks as cats are most likely to go back to their old haunts. Keep your dog on a leash when you take them out for 1st time and take it slow – 1 block at a time. For birds, put the bird cage in same light conditions as your old home and avoid drafts.