



House Sitter's Pet Care Checklist

This checklist is for the sitter to review pet care requirements with the homeowner during the handover period.

1: General Information

- Do pets live indoors/outdoors or both?
- Does the pet have a microchip or tattoo?
- Obtain lost pet registry information.
- Take photos of the pet and any distinguishing features.
- What is the backup plan, i.e. back up sitter/friend/kennel or boarding?

2: Veterinary Hospital/Clinic

- Is the Veterinary Treatment Authorization form completed?
- Contact information for veterinary clinic.
- Are there any afterhours care options?
- Does the veterinary clinic have complete records for your pets?
- Do you have a pet carrier for your pet?
- Does the pet travel well in the car?

3: Health Issues

- Are the pets vaccinations and worming up to date?
- Are there flea or tick prevention requirements?
- Is anti-venom available?
- Are any medications required during absence?
- What is the name of the medication, the treatment procedure and dosage? Is there a replacement source of medication?
- Does the pet have any skin issues, i.e. hot spots?
- Do you have a cone in case one is required?
- Does the pet have any health concerns or issues the sitter should be aware of?

4: Pet Behavior

- Are the pets social with people and other animals?
- Do the pets have any aggressive tendencies?
- Is there a history of biting people/other animals?
- Is there places the pets do not like being touched or stroked?
- Are the pets afraid of thunderstorms/fireworks/vacuum cleaners/or have other anxieties?
- Do the pets have favorite hiding places?
- Are there any daily routines other than feeding that need to be kept?
- Do the pets have a tendency to escape the property and if so, where do they go? Will they come back on their own?

- Do the pets have any quirks (spraying, shoe fetishes, scratching the furniture, or jumping out of moving cars)?
- Are there any types of people they do not like?
- Are the pets house trained?
- What is the litter box procedure? Where is the waste disposed?
- Is there a maximum time the pets can be left alone?
- Do you leave the TV or radio on when you are out? What is their favorite channel?
- Where do the pets sleep?

5: Diet and Feeding Instructions

- Do the pets have dietary allergies?
- Do the pets have a special diet or require supplements or vitamins?
- Is there a pecking order followed when feeding?
- What is the feeding routine, i.e. type of food, amounts, and usual feeding times?
- Where are the drinking bowls kept?
- Where do you usually feed the pets?
- Do the pets have a weight problem that needs to be managed?
- Is human food allowed, if so what and when?
- Are the pets allowed pet treats? If so when and how many?
- Is feeding at the table allowed or forbidden?
- Is there anything to watch for, eating garbage, scrounging, begging etc.?

6: Exercise and Play Instructions

- How often do the dogs get walked? What time of day?
- Where do the dogs like to be walked? How adventurous are they?
- Are there any exercise restrictions?
- Is obedience training necessary, and if so what?
- Any training routine you would like continued?
- Does your pet listen to instructions? If so, what are they?

7: Grooming Information

- What are the daily and weekly grooming requirements?
- Do the dog(s) like to swim or be bathed?
- Are there any eye, ear, or teeth problems to watch for (eye hockey, mites, or teeth brushing)?
- Where are the grooming supplies located?

8: House, Automobile, and Pool Rules

- Are there any rooms or areas that are off limits to the pets?
- Are the pets allowed on furniture, carpets, beds, or tables?
- Are the dogs allowed in the pool?
- Are the pets allowed in the car, do they like to travel?
- How do you discipline your pet if necessary?

9: Pet Supply Information

- Location of pet food, treats, chew toys, catnip and where to acquire more if needed.
- Location of collars, leads, and muzzles.
- Location of toys, balls, and scratch posts.
- Location of pooper scooper, bags, litter.
- Location of travel items like boxes, blankets, and carriers.
- How often does bedding require cleaning?
- Do you have a piece of worn clothing to remind them of you?

10: Pet Safety

Are there any hazards to your pets health?

- Ant bait, mothballs, insecticides, rat poison or other chemical hazards.
- String ribbon, tinsel, or dental floss.
- Plants they should not be chewing on.
- Treated toilet water.
- Stash of chocolate.
- Is the dog car smart or a tire biter?
- How does he react to other animals (domestic/farm/wild)?