

For Pet Sitter

Whether you're a first-time house sitter or an experienced one, preparation is key to ensuring a smooth and successful sit. Follow this simple guide to get everything in order and provide the best care for the home and pets.

Step 1: Gather Essential Information

Before you arrive, connect with the homeowner to clarify important details:

- **Pet Details:** Learn about their names, breeds, personalities, daily routines (feeding, exercise), and any medical needs (medication, vet contact).
- **Emergency Contacts:** Collect phone numbers for the homeowner, their preferred vet, and a backup contact (e.g., neighbor or family).
- **House Details:** Confirm the address, sit dates, and key logistics (e.g., parking, WiFi password).

Step 2: Understand House Rules and Responsibilities

Make sure you're clear on expectations for the sit:

- **House Rules:** Ask about policies on food, visitors, and areas that are off-limits.
- **Pet Care:** Learn how to use pet essentials like leashes, toys, or litter boxes.
- **Home Maintenance:** Discuss tasks like watering plants, collecting mail, or taking out the trash.
- **Security:** Ensure you know how to operate alarms, lock doors, and locate spare keys.

Step 3: Pack the Essentials

Bring everything you'll need for the sit:

- **Clothing:** Suitable for the weather and any activities (e.g., dog walking).
- **Personal Items:** Toiletries, electronics, and travel documents.
- **Extras:** Cash for emergencies and any items the homeowner recommends.

Step 4: Prepare for Arrival

- **1-2 Days Before:** Reach out to confirm your arrival time and ensure everything is set for your visit. Review any Welcome Guide or instructions the homeowner has shared.
- **On Your First Day:** Get a tour of the house and clarify any last-minute questions. Locate key items like pet supplies, cleaning products, and the router.

Step 5: During the Sit

Stick to the agreed-upon routine and responsibilities:

- **Pet Care:** Follow feeding, exercise, and grooming instructions. Regularly update the homeowner with photos and messages.
- **Household Tasks:** Keep the home clean, water plants, take out trash, and collect mail.
- **Safety:** Lock doors and windows when leaving and follow any security instructions.

Step 6: Wrap Up the Sit

Before you leave, ensure the home is in perfect order:

- **Clean and Tidy:** Wash dishes, clean surfaces, and tidy up pet areas (e.g., bowls, litter boxes).
- **Laundry:** Wash and fold used towels or bedding.

- **Return Keys:** Leave keys in the agreed location or hand them over to the homeowner.
- **Final Check:** Confirm the homeowner's arrival time, lock all doors, and set the alarm.

Step 7: Leave a Great Impression

- Write a thank-you note or personally greet the homeowner upon their return.
- Ask for a review to enhance your profile and attract more opportunities.

Tips for Success

- **Be proactive:** Discuss emergency protocols and unexpected expenses with the homeowner beforehand.
- **Stay organized:** Use a checklist to track daily tasks.
- **Communicate:** Regular updates build trust and show your commitment.

By following these steps, you'll not only meet the homeowner's expectations but also ensure a happy experience for their pets!

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