Dog Sitter Checklist

A dog sitter checklist for owners covering walks, feeding, commands, vet info and emergencies.

Feeding instructions

- [ ] List the food type, amount and exact feeding times.
- [ ] Show where food, treats and bowls are stored.
- [ ] Pre-portion meals to make feeding easy.
- [ ] Note allergies and any unsafe foods.
- [ ] Explain treat rules and training treats.
- [ ] Describe how to refresh water throughout the day.

Walks and exercise

- [ ] Note walk times, length and the usual route.
- [ ] Specify the harness, collar and leash to use.
- [ ] Explain leash behavior, pulling or reactivity.
- [ ] Describe recall reliability and off-leash rules.
- [ ] List potty break times and habits.
- [ ] Mention weather limits for walks.

  For leash or reactivity issues, a professional trainer can help long term.

Commands and behavior

- [ ] List commands your dog knows and the exact cue words.
- [ ] Explain how your dog responds to sit, stay and come.
- [ ] Note leave it and drop it for safety.
- [ ] Describe house rules, like furniture or door manners.
- [ ] Flag behaviors to avoid reinforcing.
- [ ] Share how your dog signals stress or needs.

Daily routine and comforts

- [ ] Outline the typical day from morning to night.
- [ ] Note crate or sleeping arrangements.
- [ ] List favorite toys and comfort items.
- [ ] Explain alone-time tolerance and limits.
- [ ] Describe play, enrichment and downtime needs.
- [ ] Mention any anxieties or fears.

Vet and health info

- [ ] Share your veterinarian's name and number.
- [ ] List medications, doses and timing clearly.
- [ ] Note any medical conditions or allergies.

- [ ] Include microchip details and a recent photo.
- [ ] Confirm vaccine and parasite prevention is current.
- [ ] Verify medication instructions with your veterinarian.

Emergencies and contacts

- [ ] Provide your phone number and travel dates.
- [ ] List a local backup contact who can step in.
- [ ] Note the nearest emergency vet clinic and address.
- [ ] Authorize emergency care and note any cost limits.
- [ ] Explain how to lock up and secure the home.
- [ ] Confirm visit times and how to send you updates.
- [ ] Important: This is general information, not professional advice. Confirm medication and health instructions with your veterinarian and consult a professional trainer for serious behavior concerns.