

Pet Boarding Checklist

A pet boarding checklist for owners covering booking, vaccines, supplies and instructions.

Choose and book a facility

- ☐ Research facilities and read recent reviews.
- ☐ Tour the facility and check cleanliness and safety.
- ☐ Ask about staff ratios, supervision and emergency plans.
- ☐ Confirm pricing, hours and drop-off and pickup times.
- ☐ Book early, especially around holidays.
- ☐ Ask whether a trial day or meet-and-greet is required.

Vaccines and health

- ☐ Request the facility's required vaccine list and timing.
 - ☐ Confirm rabies and other core vaccines are current.
 - ☐ Check whether kennel cough protection is required for dogs.
 - ☐ Ensure flea, tick and parasite prevention is up to date.
 - ☐ Bring proof of vaccination records to drop-off.
 - ☐ Confirm your pet is healthy enough to board.
- Verify vaccine and health requirements with your veterinarian beforehand.

Supplies to pack

- ☐ Pack enough food for the full stay plus a few extra days.
- ☐ Pre-portion meals to make feeding easy for staff.
- ☐ Bring medications with clear dosing instructions.
- ☐ Add a familiar blanket, bed or toy for comfort.
- ☐ Include a collar with ID and a leash if needed.
- ☐ Label every item clearly with your pet's name.

Care instructions

- ☐ Write out feeding amounts and a clear schedule.
- ☐ List medications, doses and timing in detail.
- ☐ Note allergies, dietary restrictions and sensitivities.
- ☐ Describe your pet's routine, quirks and comforts.
- ☐ Flag any anxieties, fears or behavior triggers.
- ☐ Explain how your pet usually signals needs or stress.

Emergency information

- ☐ Provide your contact number and travel dates.
- ☐ List an emergency backup contact who can act for you.
- ☐ Share your veterinarian's name and phone number.
- ☐ Authorize emergency care and note any cost limits.
- ☐ Include microchip details and a recent photo.
- ☐ Note any conditions staff should watch for closely.

Drop-off day

- ☐ Confirm the reservation and required paperwork.
- ☐ Hand over food, medications and comfort items.
- ☐ Review feeding and medication instructions with staff.
- ☐ Keep the goodbye calm and brief to ease stress.
- ☐ Confirm how the facility will reach you if needed.
- ☐ Verify pickup time and any pickup requirements.
- ☐ Important: This is general information, not professional advice. Confirm vaccine and health requirements with the facility and your veterinarian before boarding your pet.