

# Moving with a Pet PCS Tips and Tricks



## General thoughts

- Keep your animal - They are a lifelong commitment!
- Be prepared to pay extra during travel & at your new location due to a pet.
- Plan your move in advance (over plan).
- Make sure collar and tags are updated and secure.
- Be flexible!

## Pre-dream sheet considerations

- Look into regulations/restrictions for the state/country you are looking into.
- OCONUS is extremely expensive out-of-pocket for pets, i.e. ferries, airline restrictions, etc.
- New locations may require months of advanced planning.
- Links to OCONUS pet information:

[Hawaii](#)      [Guam](#)      [Puerto Rico](#)  
[Hawaii](#)      [Guam](#)      [Alaska](#)  
[Hawaii](#)

## Once you know your location

- Start planning your travel early!
- Learn local requirements.
- Inquire about any pet license requirements in the state, county or city.
- Look for pet friendly housing.

## Veterinarian, meds & paperwork

- Visit the veterinarian early!
- Make sure all shots (rabies, etc) are up to date
- Discuss sedation medicine (if needed).
- Make sure to have enough medicine (flea/tick/heartworm, anti-anxiety, etc.) for the move.
- Get copies of all vet medical and shot records and carry hard copies with you.
- Talk to the vet about planned travel and get any advice on ferry, car, airplane, etc. travel.
- Get a new vet appointment quickly after arrival.
- During the move, use flea meds to prevent your pet from picking up some new friends along the way.

## Preparing your pet

- Keep routine as much as possible.
- Crate train dogs.
- Acclimate pet to crate/car/travel.



\*\*This is an unofficial document created based on the tips, tricks, and recommendations of military families. \*\*

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**Start planning your move and trip early!**

## Driving

- Check out your routes and plan stops ahead of time.
- Include how often bathroom stops will be needed.
- Plan to eat in your car, at rest stops, or pet-friendly establishments.
- Research pet-friendly restaurants, hotels, activities, and areas along your travel route before departing.
- Review pet regulations for planned activities and stops. ([National parks](#))

## Flying & ferry

- Check regulations early!
- Check pet carrier requirements.
- Airline & Ferry Info:
  - [Alaska Air](#)   [American Airlines](#)
  - [United](#)   [Delta](#)   [Frontier](#)
  - [Hawaiian Airlines](#)   [Southwest](#)
  - [Alaska Marine Highway](#)

## Hotel

- Determine and book ahead of time.
- Read the fine print of pet policy.
- Be prepared to pay extra.
- Recommended places:
  - [La Quintas Inn & Suites](#)
  - [KOA Campgrounds and cabins](#)
  - [Homewood Suites](#)
  - [Home2 Suites](#)
- Check out [BringFido](#), [TripswithPets](#), and [Petswelcome](#).

## Packing for your pet

- Have all items put aside before movers arrive.
- Bring medical records (hardcopy).
- Bring creature comforts (favorite toy, bed, blankets), food, treats, toys, bowls, litter boxes, medication, carrier/crate/kennel, cleaning supplies, puppy pads (even for potty-trained dogs).
- Ensure tags are up to date.
- Make sure critical items are easily accessible (leash, water bowl, food, etc.).

## Dealing with moversmove day

- Have pets out of the house while movers are present - kennel, doggie daycare, board, friend, pet sitter.
- If your pet must be in the house - keep in a safe space, off-limits room or cage, such as a bathroom (label there is a pet) with door shut.

## During the move/transit

- Take lots of walks.
- Eat in the car with your pet along the way, don't leave them alone.
- Never leave a pet in a hot car. Be careful of hot pavement, check before you let your pet out of the car.
- Find local dog parks when possible.
- Be patient things, might not go as expected.
- Realize a pet may be stressed out.
- Be flexible. Don't sweat the small stuff.

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