

Moving the Whole Kitten Kaboodle (and Pootchie Patoodle!)

An excerpt from the book *29 Days to a Smooth Move* (www.29DaystoSmoothMove.com)

Donna's Ditty --

My Cat Needs Rogaine

Be alert to changes in behavior. When I moved from my farmhouse to an apartment in Erie, my cat Baby took a long look at all the new boxes and then started losing (and, unfortunately, eating) her hair.

After diagnosing an intestinal blockage that was easily fixed with a shot and some pills, the vet asked if there were some changes going on in the household that would cause my cat to freak out. Seems that a zillion empty boxes plus a distracted and slightly frantic owner were enough to alert my little cat that big changes were in the works.

Keep tabs on your tabby so the same doesn't happen to you!

Before the Move - Watch For Signs of Apprehension

Furry family members might be going through their own moving anxiety. Pay attention to changes in their eating and sleeping habits. And, yes, there are a million things to do, but try to take some time out to play with Rover and reassure him that even though everything is going topsy-turvy around him, he still has your love.

Spend a little extra time cuddling the kitty or doggy to reassure them that life is going to be okay.

Away On Moving Day

On moving day, it's best to keep pets out of the way. See if they can stay at a friend's house or board them.

Another option is to keep dogs crated (if they are used to it – not a good idea if they aren't) and cats shut up in one room. Better a day of stress for the domesticated beasties instead of days, weeks or months of heartache if the pet gets out and runs away.



Make a Moving Memo

Vet Checklist:

- Records
- Vaccinations
- Treatments
- Tranquilizers

Do Professional Movers Take Pets?

You wish! No, federal regulations prohibit moving companies from shipping animals in moving vans. Besides, pets – like plants – travel best under your own care.

Pet Travel Prep

- ✓ Carry health and rabies certificates with you. Airlines and state health officials generally require health certificates for all animals transported by air. In most cases, health certificates must be issued by a licensed veterinarian examining the animal within 10 days of transport.
- ✓ Ask your veterinarian to provide any required vaccinations and treatments. Does your pet have appropriate heartworm protection if the mosquito season begins earlier or ends later in the area you will be moving to? Administer tranquilizers with the prescribed dosage only if specifically prescribed by your veterinarian.
- ✓ Pack your pets' water and food bowls, grooming equipment and any medication they may require. To avoid digestive upsets, take a supply of their favorite dry food with you.

29 Days to a Smooth Move www.29DaystoSmoothMove.com

- > **Save Your Cents**
- > **Save Your Sanity**
- > **Save Scads of Your Time**

We *know* that *you know* you need to pack, sell your home, find movers, clean out – but that you're not quite sure *how* to prioritize your time and your tasks.

We Also Think . . .

You want to save money in the process. We'll show you how to trim the fat from your moving expenses and outline the costs you can expect, down to the final roll of packing tape.

You want to think like an expert. Think of this book as a crash course in Moving 101. You have just enough information to be dangerous, and you'll be thinking like the pros in no time. We arm you with critical "must ask" questions. Plus, with Tara's Tales and Donna's Ditties – our personal stories sprinkled throughout – you'll avoid the mistakes we made and learn from our triumphs.

You are a bit overwhelmed! It's no secret that moving is one of life's most stressful events. Put away the Alka Seltzer because this book is chock full of step-by-step instructions, planning calendars, checklists and everything you'll need for a smooth and easy move.

To find out how to make your household move as smooth as possible, check out www.29DaystoSmoothMove.com