

Preparing your Pet for their Visit to the Vet



Tips for Cat Owners:

1. Purchase a carrier that opens from the top or has an easily removable top. Pulling or dumping a frightened cat from a carrier is very stressful for the animal.
2. Accustom your pet to the carrier prior to each visit. This is best accomplished by placing the carrier in a central location of your home at least 3 days prior to the exam. Wipe the carrier with pheromone wipes such as Feliway, and place their bed and treats inside. Your goal is to make the carrier a happy and inviting place your pet looks forward to getting into.
3. When driving make sure the carrier is flat and secure. Use towels underneath the carrier to help balance and keep it from sliding.
4. Cover the carrier with a towel to reduce visual stimuli.
5. During the car ride play classical music. Research studies suggest such music has a calming effect on many species
6. Speak in a low, calm and reassuring voice.
7. Always carry the carrier with both hands as if you are cradling a fragile present. This prevents the cat from being jostled around during transport
8. Place your carrier on a bench beside you and face it away from any other pets in the waiting area.
9. If your pet experiences significant stress when coming to the vet, call to discuss the option of anti-anxiety medications before their visit.

We hope these tips help lessen stress for you and your pet!