

Preparing your Pet for their Visit to the Vet



Tips for Dog Owners:

1. Purchase a harness or fixed length leash to improve the control you have of your dog in the hospital.
2. Condition your dog to enjoy car rides. Short drives and plenty of treats will help your dog view the car in a positive light. Take your time getting your dog accustomed to travel. If your dog seems stressed, cut your session short and try again another day.
3. If not medically contraindicated, feed your dog a very small meal the morning of your office visit. A hungry dog will respond better to food rewards we give at the veterinary hospital.
4. You know what your dog loves best, please bring in their favorite treat, kibble, or toy for each visit.
5. During the car ride play classical music. Research studies suggest such music has a calming effect on many species.
6. Speak to your pet in a low, calm, and reassuring voice.
7. If you have an anxious dog, call ahead to announce your arrival and wait in the car if possible. Limiting time in the waiting room creates a calmer visit. Our nurses will let you know when your exam room becomes available.
8. 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!