

Preparing Your Home for a New Pet

Family Matters

Bringing a new pet home is an exciting milestone. Whether it's a playful puppy, a curious kitten or a rescue pet beginning a new chapter, your preparation before they arrive will shape how quickly they settle into family life.

At Amity, we believe that successful pet ownership starts long before your new companion walks through the front door. That's why our purpose is to **Empower You Through Education**.

Create a Safe Space

Moving home is one of the biggest changes your pet will ever experience. New smells, unfamiliar sounds and different people can all feel overwhelming.

Prepare a quiet area where they can retreat when they need to rest. Include comfortable bedding, fresh water and toys. For cats, provide a litter tray, scratching post and somewhere high or enclosed where they can feel secure.

Remember, confidence grows when pets feel safe.

Pet-Proof Your Home

Curiosity is wonderful—but it can also get pets into trouble.

Before they arrive, take a walk around your home and look at it from their perspective.

Move electrical cables out of reach, remove poisonous plants, secure bins, keep medicines and cleaning products safely stored, and place tempting foods such as chocolate, grapes, onions and xylitol well out of reach.

A few minutes of preparation can prevent a trip to the emergency vet.

Gather the Essentials

Before bringing your pet home, make sure you have:

- Food recommended by the breeder or rescue.
- Food and water bowls.
- Comfortable bedding.
- Collar, lead and ID tag for dogs.
- Litter tray and litter for cats.
- Toys for enrichment.

- Grooming equipment.
- A secure carrier.

Keeping things familiar during the first few days helps reduce stress.

Plan Your Routine

Pets thrive on consistency.

Think about feeding times, walks, toilet breaks, bedtime and who will be responsible for different aspects of their care.

A predictable routine helps your new family member settle more quickly and builds confidence.

Plan Their Healthcare

Register with your chosen veterinary practice before your pet arrives.

Arrange their first health check and discuss vaccinations, parasite prevention, nutrition, insurance and microchip registration.

At Amity, **Amity Essential Membership includes unlimited health checks**, giving you peace of mind as your new pet settles into family life.

It's About More Than Preparation

Your new pet doesn't need a perfect home.

They need a loving one.

They won't remember whether their bed was expensive or their toys were brand new. They'll remember how safe they felt, how gently they were treated and how quickly they became part of your family.

The greatest preparation isn't buying more things.

It's preparing to give your time, patience and love.

Because you're not simply bringing home a pet.

You're welcoming a new member of your family.

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If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your pet's greatest advocate.