



Bringing a new pet home?

So, you've decided you're ready to welcome a pet into your home for the first time. Congratulations! Whether you're adopting a playful pup or a purr-fect cat, there are different ways to prepare your home. Check out our checklist to find out how to prep for any pet.

Prepare your home

Secure your home and yard

- Ensure doors, gates, and windows latch properly
- Confirm fences are secure, the right height, and in good condition
- Make sure there are no potential escape routes
- Acquire Pets on Premises sticker from Animal Services and display on front door, this is for Calgary Fire Department use in case of an emergency

Pet-proof the home

- Invest in tightly closing garbage cans and pet-food containers
- Tie-up long blind cords
- Conceal or move electrical cords
- If you have house plants, ensure they're non-toxic or out of reach
- Walk your home and view it from your pet's perspective: eliminate or move anything that looks tempting

Create a space in your home

- Get a bed for your pet
- Invest in a crate or carrier
- Purchase pet toys
- Plan for a play area
- Stock up on necessary supplies
 - City of Calgary pet licence
 - ID tags with your phone number, address and the pet's name
 - Baby-gate or ex-pen
 - Pet food
 - Water and food dishes
 - Collar and/or harness
 - Treats
 - Leash
 - Dog coats/boots
 - Waste bags
 - Litterbox and litter
 - Training pads

Prepare the family

Establish the budget you'll need to support a pet, consider:

- Food
- Veterinary care
- Accessories
- Licence
- Insurance
- Boarding

Create ground rules

- Setup a consult with a certified professional dog trainer right away
- Where can the pet go and not go within the home?
- Are they allowed on the furniture?
- Where should they be sleeping?
- Develop a chore list for caring for the pet
- Plan how you will introduce any current pets
- Establish your pet's routine
- Learn the local animal bylaws

Arrange these essential services

Veterinarian

Certified professional dog-trainer

Pet insurance

Pet sitter

Groomer

Dog walker
