

# Preparing For Your Cat Sitter



When you leave your pets in the care of **All About Kitties**, you can travel with peace of mind. To make sure your cat sitter has all the necessities to take the best care of your cat, check off the items on this handy list before you leave home.

## Preparation is Key:

- Notify your veterinarian in writing that a pet sitter will be caring for your pet and authorize the vet to extend medical care during your absence if it becomes necessary. You may want to leave your credit card on file with them.
- Check that you have enough pet food, treats, kitty litter and medications to last the length of your time away. If All About Kitties has to pick up supplies or medications for you, a \$20 surcharge will be added to your bill.
- Check that you have all supplies in one general and visible area. This includes food, treats, utensils, food and water bowls, medications, can opener, toys, paper towels, cleaning supplies, garbage bags, litter and scoop, broom and dustpan and/or vacuum cleaner and watering can for plants.
- Be sure to tell All About Kitties about any unusual habits your pet has, i.e. destructive behavior when left alone, change in bowel or eating habits, hiding places, etc.
- Close the doors to any household areas that are off limits to your cat and/or sitter. And make sure kitty is not in that room before you close it off!
- For the comfort of your cat, adjust the thermostat before leaving on your trip and advise All About Kitties the range it should be kept in.

- To make your cat more comfortable while you're away, you can leave out a few items of clothing that you've worn (or blanket) in a place where your cat frequently stays. Having your scent around will have a calming affect on kitty when you're not there.
- It sometimes helps to have normal sounds around rather than to leave the house silent for days. If you'd like the TV turned on, leave instructions on how to turn the system on, and then program your TV to turn off after a specified number of hours .

## Pet Proof Your Home:

- Make sure cupboards & storage areas (garage) are secured.
- Are the toilet lids down in any accessible bathrooms?
- See that medications are locked up. The sound of pills rattling in a plastic bottle may entice a cat to chew the bottle open.
- Remove candy and nuts from coffee tables or locations where a cat get to them. Chocolate is toxic to pets and nuts can be dangerous as well.
- Check to see that any hobby supplies i.e. needles and thread, yarn, etc. have been placed in a secure area, away from an inquisitive cat's reach. The same goes for string toys (wands, etc).

## Home Security:

- Make sure All About Kitties is aware of anyone who may be on your premises or entering your home during the cat sitting assignment. Please note that professional, insured pet sitters cannot allow shared pet sitting with others—even family members—for liability purposes and to provide the best possible care for your cat.
- Use timers on interior lights and program them to turn on at dusk and off at bedtime. Use motion sensors or timers on exterior lights. If evening visits are scheduled to your home, All About Kitties will really appreciate this safety precaution!
- Make sure doors and windows are securely locked before leaving. This should include garage doors and sliding glass doors. If outside doors have panes of glass near a push-button lock, consider installing a dead bolt lock as well.
- If applicable, advise gate security that All About Kitties will be visiting your home and authorize entry. Provide a gate pass or remote opener to All About Kitties, if applicable.
- Inform your neighbors of your absence and use of a pet sitter. See Neighbor Notification Form under Client Forms at [www.AllAboutKitties.com](http://www.AllAboutKitties.com).
- Make sure any fences are secure and yard gates are locked.