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Dog sitting instructions template

Going out of town without your very best friend? Use this pet sitting checklist to make sure your pup's time apart from you goes as smoothly as possible! Download our dog sitter instructions template as a printable PDF by clicking here. No printer? No problem. Here's everything you need to let your dog sitter know before leaving. Your Information Cell phone number, the address you'll be staying, the basics. If you've planned your itinerary down to the hour, perfect. Let your dog sitter know exactly how to get in touch with you wherever you are! Your Emergency Contact In case you can't be reached - maybe you're at a show, maybe your Scrabble game is getting a bit too heated - it's a good idea to designate an emergency contact in case of, well, an emergency. Remember to let your contact know what's happening before you leave! Your Veterinarian's Information No one wants to think about anything going wrong for their pup while on vacation (or ever for that matter). But just in case, write down all your veterinarian's information for your pet sitter: name, contact information, and the address of the clinic. If you have pet insurance, this is the time to mention those details. Be sure to include your dog's medical history, especially if they have any current or recurring medical issues. And to be extra cautious, include the information for an after-hours emergency vet clinic. Pet Information Definitely let your pet sitter know your dog's microchip and registration numbers, and any allergies they may have. And to help make your dog's time away from you easier on them, tell your pet sitter all about their favorite games, places, toys, and any dislikes of theirs. This is also the time to inform your sitter of any special behaviors your dog may have so they know what's abnormal for them. Is your dog scared of thunder? Do they hate having baths? Let your pet sitter know about it so they know what to expect! Walk Routine What times of day do you walk your dog? How long do you stay out for? Where do you keep your leash and dog poop bags? Let your dog sitter know your usual walk time and routine. Food If your dog is as food-obsessed as our team's dogs are, you're going to want to keep their dining routine consistent while you're away. Write down everything: Which times of day you feed your pup, which type/brand of dog food you give them and what quantity each time, any treats they're allowed, and any restrictions/allergies. If it's not clear, outline where you keep your dog's food too. No one wants to comb through cabinets to find out where dinner is hidden. Medications Medical issues are serious business. Set your pet sitter up for success by outlining everything there is to know about your dog's medications. The name of the medication, the dose and frequency, what time(s) you give your dog their medication, instructions on how to administer it, and the location where you keep it. Cleaning Up As much as we may not want to admit our precious angels are anything but the perfect roommate, accidents can happen. Where do you keep your dog wipes? Write it down! Rules Does your dog sleep in bed with you or are they banned from the couch? Inform your dog sitter of any house rules you have for your pup. House Information If you're going away, the last thing you want is to be bothered with questions about the electrical panel location. Let your pet sitter know your Wi-Fi network and password beforehand, as well as any security codes or other important information. Trash and recycling days are also good to note! Finally, before you leave make sure to leave all your pet's essentials out in the open so your sitter can find them easily, and stock up so they don't have to leave your pet to purchase extra supplies! If you are a pet sitter or if you're looking for one, it is important to have the right tools to help you do your job. That's why we have put together this list of the 5 best pet sitter printables to download! These printables will help you keep track of your pet clients, their information, and what services you provide for them. We also have a free pet sitter checklist that you can print out and use as a reference. Check them out! If you're looking for something simple with scattered paws in the background, this printable would help. It has all the information a pet sitter will need about a puppy including the food schedule. 2. Yellow Paws Pet Sitter Info Sheet This printable would help a pet sitter know what to do to a puppy on a daily basis. Let's say pet owners will leave their pup due to a business trip. 3. Cute Pet Sitter Instructions Another cute and simple printable for a pet sitter. All information to be included for a pet. 4. Fancy Pet Sitter Info Sheet This printable is quite fancy and has more details such as feedings, water, and exercise schedule. 5. Pet & Vet Info Sheet What we love about this template is the cartoonish background it has. All pet and veterinarian information is also included. That's all for our roundup of the best 5 pet sitter printables! If you're looking for a new pet sitter or are just looking to make your current job a little bit easier, be sure to check out download one of these printables. From a handy checklist to help keep track of everything that needs to be done while you're away, to adorable printable cards that will let your pet know you haven't forgotten about them, we've got you covered. So what are you waiting for? Download your favorites and get started today. Subscribe to our newsletter At PetPress we love our pets of all shapes and sizes. We have special categories for dogs, cats, exotic pets, and waste pets. We are also proud of our free tools including a pet meme generator and a pet name generator. Follow us or one of our many popular group boards: Back to Top This post includes helpful pet sitter instructions for when you are away and need peace of mind and a free template for you to print.You are taking a vacation, and you can't take your dog with you this time, which is already overwhelming. But it can be a nightmare to think that while you're away, your sitter doesn't have all your dog's information to ensure the best care.I like to use this template for my dog notes when we go out of town and someone watches our dog. It's the perfect guide to ensure that the sitter has everything they need to take the best care of him so we can enjoy our time away.This post has helpful pet sitter instructions that you can print once and leave behind when you are away. This way, you don't have to text your sitters the same things every single time.Best Pet Sitter Instructions Template (it's free btw)Here is August's Free Printable from me, for you all! I went through a massive list of things I want our dog sitter to know about Chevy before we go. But I also took ideas from dog owners who leave detailed notes for me when I'm dog-sitting their pets.I have been on both sides. The dog mom worried sick about my dog at home, and the dog sitter stressed because I didn't have all the information I needed.And yes, your sitter should ask all these questions to ensure they can take good care of your dog, but if that's not the case, you are the one who leaves all the instructions for them.Name Breed Age Gender AllergiesPolice Fire Vet Urgent CarePolice Fire Vet Urgent CareName Phone # Address WiFi WiFi Password Alarm/ Door CodePet Triggers Behaviour Likes DislikesLike dog-specific commands such as sit, drop it, wait, etc.More like this: "All dog stuff in one place." Click HERE to get this Free Printable!This post was about what pet sitter instructions leave when you are away and a free template for you to print. TL;DR: To leave detailed instructions for a pet sitter, list feeding times, walk schedules, meds, and quirks—think "Fluffy's kibble at 7, no vacuum near the cat." Be clear, specific, and include emergencies. Cat sitters need litter and hiding spot details. Grab our template below for a no-stress handoff.Why detailed instructions are crucialLeaving your pet with a sitter is like handing over your kid to a babysitter—except your kid barks, meows, or chews your shoes. I've learned the hard way that a scribbled note saying "feed the dog" doesn't cut it. Detailed instructions aren't just busywork; they're the difference between a sitter nailing your pet's routine and you coming home to a very grumpy cat or a dog who's redecorated with trash. They're your lifeline to a smooth trip and a happy pet.Saving your sitter (and your pet) from chaosImagine your sitter guessing if "morning walk" means 6 a.m. or 10 a.m., or if your cat's hiding because she's mad or just plotting world domination. Without clear directions, they're flying blind—and your pet pays the price. Good instructions turn a potential mess into a well-oiled machine, keeping everyone sane.The peace of mind payoffThere's nothing worse than sipping a piña colada, wondering if your dog's getting his allergy meds or if the sitter's found the cat's secret stash of toys. A solid guide—think feeding times, vet numbers, and "don't let Rover near the couch"—lets you relax, knowing your pet's in good hands. It's like a vacation for your brain too.Crafting instructions that workWriting instructions for a pet sitter isn't about penning a novel—it's about clarity and specifics. I start with the essentials: what, when, and how. My dog's a diva about his kibble, so I spell out "half a cup at 7 a.m., no people food, or he'll guilt-trip you all day." It's not just about keeping them alive; it's about keeping their little world spinning right.How to write instructions for a pet sitterKeep it simple but thorough—bullet points are your friend. Start with daily stuff: "Feed Bella wet food at 6 p.m., one can, mix in her pills." Add routines: "Walk Max 20 minutes after breakfast, he pulls, so use the harness." Toss in quirks: "Luna hides under the bed—lure her with treats." Include emergencies—vet info, your number—and a heads-up on anything weird, like "Buster barks at the mailman, it's normal." Done right, it's a roadmap, not a riddle.What instructions do you leave a cat sitter?Cats are stealthy little bosses, so get specific. "Litter box scooped daily, she'll boycott it otherwise" is a must. Add feeding: "Half a cup dry at 8 a.m., wet at 6 p.m., fresh water always." Note hiding spots: "Check the closet if she vanishes." If she's on meds or loves a nightly brush, say so—cats don't forgive oversights. It's their kingdom; the sitter's just visiting.A bare-bones "feed and walk" list might keep your pet ticking, but sitters deserve more to shine. We've left notes like "the dog's obsessed with his squeaky ball—hide it at night or he'll drive you nuts," and it's saved a sitter from a 3 a.m. serenade ☹️. Think of it as giving them the full playbook—routines, preferences, and those little things that make your pet, well, your pet. It's not just about survival; it's about keeping the tail wags and purrs coming.Covering all the basesBeyond food and walks, add the extras: where's the leash, which treats are fair game, and does your cat have a secret napping lair? Toss in house stuff—trash day, Wi-Fi code—so they're not fumbling. Emergencies are huge: vet contact, backup human, and "call me if the dog's eating the couch again." The more they know, the less they guess, and the happier everyone stays.What are the disadvantages of being a pet sitter? (And how instructions help)Sitters deal with plenty—unpredictable pets, odd hours, and the occasional "where's the food?!" panic. Vague instructions make it worse; they're stuck guessing if "twice a day" means morning and night or noon and midnight. A detailed guide cuts the stress—think "Max's pills at 8 a.m., half a tablet in cheese"—so they're not playing pet detective. It turns a tough gig into a manageable one.Your pet sitter instruction templateWe've put together a template to make this a breeze—grab it, fill it out, and make it over. It's got spots for feeding, exercise, meds, quirks, and contacts, so you don't miss a thing. Customize it for your dog's walk obsession or your cat's litter box demands—whatever keeps your pet's world spinning. Fill in your email below and we will send it straight to your inbox.It's simple but covers the gamut—add "socks hates thunder, hide in the closet" or "Rex needs his ball tossed 10 times." It's your pet's life in a nutshell, ready for the sitter to roll with.Once your instructions are set, make them stick. Print a copy and stick it on the fridge—digital's fine, but paper's harder to miss. Walk the sitter through it—point out the food stash, the leash spot, and "here's where the cat plots her escapes." Leave extra supplies; if your dog's a treat hog, don't skimp ☹️. For a full prep rundown, this guide is gold. Finding a pet sitter on Petme can pair you with someone who'll follow your playbook to the letter.Making it foolproofTest it out—a short overnight lets you tweak before the big trip. Label stuff—"Max's food," "Luna's meds"—so there's no mix-up. Add a "just in case" note: "If the power's out, the flashlight's in the drawer." It's overkill until it isn't, and your sitter will thank you when the cat's not staging a midnight revolt.Conclusion: Instructions that set everyone up for successLeaving detailed instructions for a pet sitter is your ticket to a stress-free getaway—cover the essentials, throw in the quirks, and hand over a template that's ready to roll. It's not just about keeping your pet fed; it's about keeping their world intact, whether it's a dog's walk or a cat's nap spot. Need a pro to match your masterpiece? Find a pet sitter on Petme who'll ace it. Your pet's happy, your sitter's clued in, and you're golden—cheers to that!FAQs: Pet sitter instruction insightsHow long should my instructions be?Aim for a page—short enough to skim, detailed enough to cover feeding, walks, and "don't let the cat near the curtains." Two pages max if you've got a zoo; brevity keeps it usable, not overwhelming.Should I include house rules too?Yes—think "no shoes on the couch" or "trash out Tuesday." It's their HQ; keep it simple but clear so they're not guessing where the bins are. Pet stuff first, house stuff second.What if my pet's routine changes?Leave a note—"Max skipped his pill yesterday, double up today"—or text it. Flexibility's key; a good sitter can roll with it if you keep them in the loop. No surprises, no stress.How do I make instructions cat-specific?Focus on litter—"scoop daily or she'll protest"—and hiding spots—"check under the bed." Add food quirks—"wet at 6 p.m., dry at 8 a.m."—and any "don't touch" vibes. Cats are picky; spell it out.Can I list the sitter everything in person?You can, but write it too—memories fade, and "I said 7 a.m." won't hold up when the dog's howling ☹️. A guide's your backup; they'll thank you when the details blur.pet sitterpet sitting tips This comprehensive guide provides a detailed template for pet sitter instructions, ensuring clear communication and peace of mind. Downloadable in various formats, including Word and PDF, it offers customizable sections for pet profiles, feeding schedules, medication details, daily routines, and emergency procedures. Enhance your pet's care by utilizing this user-friendly template, available online from numerous sources. Prepare a detailed document, leaving no room for ambiguity, ensuring your beloved pet receives the best possible care while you're away. A well-structured template ensures a smooth pet-sitting experience for both you and your pet sitter. Contact Information and Emergency Contacts Clearly provide your contact information, including your full name, phone number(s), email address, and any other relevant contact details. Ensure the pet sitter has multiple ways to reach you in case of an emergency. Include alternative contact information for a trusted friend or family member who can be reached if you are unavailable. List emergency contact information for your veterinarian, including their phone number, address, and after-hours emergency contact details. Provide the name and contact information of a trusted neighbor or friend who can assist in non-emergency situations, such as if the pet sitter needs to access your home for an unexpected reason. Consider including the address of your home and a detailed description of how to access your property, including key locations or access codes. If you have a security system, provide instructions on how to arm and disarm it, as well as any relevant security codes; For added safety, ensure your emergency contacts are aware of your pet-sitting arrangement and have access to relevant information. This complete contact information will ensure seamless communication and facilitate swift action in any unforeseen circumstances. Pet's Profile: Essential Details and Medical Information Provide a detailed description of your pet, including their name, breed, age, weight, and any distinguishing features. Include a recent photograph of your pet to aid identification. Specify your pet's temperament - are they friendly, shy, playful, or anxious? Note any behavioral quirks or sensitivities your pet might have, such as fear of loud noises, specific dislikes, or unusual habits. Detail any existing medical conditions your pet has, including allergies, chronic illnesses, or past injuries. List any medications your pet currently takes, including the dosage, frequency, and method of administration. If your pet requires specific dietary restrictions, clearly outline these, including any allergies or sensitivities to certain foods. Include the name and contact information of your veterinarian, along with any relevant medical records or vaccination information. If your pet has a microchip, provide the registration number. This comprehensive profile ensures that the pet sitter has all the necessary information to provide the best possible care for your beloved companion. Feeding Instructions: Schedules, Quantities, and Special Needs Clearly outline your pet's feeding schedule, specifying the times of day and the amount of food to be given at each feeding. Detail the type of food your pet eats, including brand names and any specific dietary requirements. If your pet is on a special diet, provide detailed instructions on the preparation and serving of their food. Specify if your pet has any food allergies or sensitivities. If your pet requires supplemental treats or snacks, indicate the types, amounts, and frequency. Describe the location of food and water bowls, and whether they need to be refilled or cleaned daily. If you use automatic feeders, explain their operation to the pet sitter. Note any preferences your pet might have regarding food presentation or temperature. If your pet has any specific needs, such as needing help to eat or requiring assistance with hydration, explicitly state them. Ensure that all feeding instructions are clear, concise, and easy for the pet sitter to understand and follow. Include details about where food is stored and how to access it. Medication and Health Care: Dosage, Administration, and Veterinary Contact If your pet requires medication, provide precise instructions on the dosage, administration method (e.g., oral, topical), and timing. Clearly state the name of the medication, the dosage amount, and how often it should be administered. If applicable, specify whether the medication needs to be given with food or water. Include any special instructions for administering the medication, such as crushing pills or mixing them with food. If your pet has any specific health concerns or conditions, provide details to the pet sitter. List the name, phone number, and address of your regular veterinarian, as well as any emergency veterinary clinics near your home. Specify any allergies your pet has or any reactions they've had to previous medications. Include a detailed description of any medical equipment your pet uses, such as insulin syringes or inhalers, and provide instructions on their proper use. Ensure that all information is clearly presented and easy to follow. Consider adding visual aids like pictures of the medication bottles. Daily Routine: Walking, Playtime, and Potty Breaks Detail your pet's typical daily routine, including the frequency and duration of walks, playtime sessions, and potty breaks. Specify the usual walking route and any areas to avoid. Describe your pet's preferred play activities and toys. If your pet requires assistance with mobility, clearly outline the necessary support. Note any specific commands or cues used during walks or playtime. For potty breaks, indicate the designated areas and any housebreaking techniques employed. Include information on how often your pet typically needs to go outside, especially during the day and night. If your pet has any unusual behaviors during these routines, mention them and suggest appropriate responses. For example, if your pet is reactive to other dogs or becomes anxious in certain situations, provide helpful strategies for the pet sitter to follow. Remember to tailor the instructions to your pet's breed, age, and energy level. House Rules: Access, Security, and Guest Restrictions Clearly outline access procedures for the pet sitter, including entry and exit points, key locations, and alarm systems. Provide detailed instructions on securing the premises, including locking doors and windows, and activating any security systems. Specify any areas of the house that are off-limits to the pet sitter or the pet; If there are specific security measures to be taken, such as locking gates or using security cameras, provide explicit directions. Inform the pet sitter about any restrictions regarding guests or visitors, including whether they are allowed to enter the home while you're away. Explain the procedure for receiving deliveries or packages. If there are specific instructions for handling mail or garbage disposal, include those details here. Mention any particular concerns about safety, such as potential hazards in the house or neighborhood. Ensure that the pet sitter understands the importance of maintaining the house's security and privacy during their stay. Provide emergency contact information for yourself, neighbors, and relevant authorities. Emergency Procedures: Vet Visits, Accidents, and Unexpected Situations Clearly outline procedures for handling veterinary emergencies, including contact information for your regular veterinarian and any emergency veterinary clinics nearby. Provide detailed instructions on how to transport your pet to the vet, including using pet carriers or other appropriate methods; Specify the authorization for emergency veterinary care, outlining whether the pet sitter is authorized to make decisions regarding treatment and expenses. Detail procedures for dealing with accidents or injuries, such as cuts, burns, or ingestion of foreign objects. Include instructions on first aid measures, if applicable, and emphasize the importance of immediate veterinary attention. Provide instructions for handling unexpected situations, such as power outages, plumbing issues, or severe weather events. Explain the process for contacting you or your emergency contact in such situations. Include contact information for trusted neighbors or local emergency services, if necessary. Ensure that the pet sitter understands the importance of documenting any incidents or unusual occurrences and reporting them to you promptly. A well-defined plan for handling emergencies will provide peace of mind and ensure your pet's safety. Special Instructions: Unique Needs, Preferences, and Behavioral Quirks This section is crucial for detailing any unique aspects of your pet's care. Clearly articulate any specific dietary needs beyond the standard feeding instructions, such as allergies, sensitivities, or preferences for certain types of food. Describe any behavioral quirks or anxieties your pet might have, including fear of loud noises, strangers, or specific situations. Outline any special grooming requirements, such as regular brushing, nail trimming, or ear cleaning. Explain any specific preferences for playtime, such as favorite toys, games, or locations. If your pet requires assistance with mobility, such as using ramps or support, describe the necessary procedures. Address any anxieties your pet might exhibit during your absence, and suggest strategies to help them feel more comfortable, such as leaving familiar items or using calming aids. Note any medications or supplements administered beyond their regular schedule. Detail any specific training techniques or commands that are effective for your pet. Thorough documentation of your pet's unique needs ensures their comfort and well-being during your absence. Additional Notes and Important Reminders This section allows for any supplementary information not covered elsewhere. Include contact details for your veterinarian, emergency contacts beyond those already listed, and any relevant medical history not explicitly detailed in the pet's profile. Specify preferred methods of communication, such as phone calls, text messages, or emails, and indicate your preferred frequency of updates. If you have a security system, provide instructions on its operation, including alarm codes and contact information for the monitoring company. Detail any specific house rules relevant to the pet sitter's stay, such as restrictions on certain areas of the house or the use of specific appliances. Note any potential hazards in your home that the pet sitter should be aware of, such as poisonous plants, unsecured chemicals, or sharp objects. Clearly state your expectations regarding the cleanliness of the pet's living area and any house cleaning tasks the pet sitter should undertake. Remember to mention any special events or appointments scheduled during your absence that the pet sitter might need to be aware of. This comprehensive approach helps guarantee a smooth and successful pet-sitting experience. Make sure your pet sitter has all of the important information they need all in one place with these free printable pet sitting forms! There's room to note pets' food preferences, favorite activities, sleep schedule, emergency numbers, and more. Our pets are an important part of our family! They bring us so much joy and comfort. So when we need to be away from them, we always want to make sure they're well taken care of. Our free printable pet sitting form lets us list all of our pet's most important information in one spot so their sitter can give them the best care possible. It can be stressful to leave our pet with someone else while we're away. We don't want to forget any important information that our sitter will need while we're gone. This organized sheet will help ensure that doesn't happen. Our pet sitter printable comes in two cute color schemes. You can snag both of them by clicking on the button below. First, the pet sitting form has space to note our pet's basic information, their name date of birth age breed microchip number current weight whether they are male or female There is also room to write down our information as the owner. We can leave our name(s), relevant phone numbers, and address. The next section on the sheet is for documenting our vet's contact information. There is space to write the phone number and address of our regular vet, along with info for an emergency vet in case the need should arise. There is space on the printable to write down our pet's food and exercise routines. And finally, there's a section for any other relevant notes that you think may be helpful for the pet sitter. Related: Printable Vet Visit Log and Pet Vaccination Record Since our pet's information will generally stay the same over time, this printable could easily be filled out, laminated, and used over and over again. If you find you want to add more notes for a specific sitter, you can always use a dry erase marker to write extra information on the laminated sheet. Keep the laminated sheet in a convenient location like a kitchen drawer or cabinet, hung on the fridge, or placed in your home's command center. Then simply pull it out any time a sitter comes over or you're taking your pet to the sitter's. If your pet's information changes frequently (if they're still growing or have extensive medical needs, for example), of course feel free to print out a new sheet and fill out new details every time you use a sitter. [Looking for a babysitter info sheet? We've got you covered! Grab our free printable babysitting information checklist here.] Our furry (and feathered!) friends are important to us. We want to make sure we do everything we can to give them the best care. Making sure our sitters have all of the information they need will help them care for our beloved pets while we are away from them. We hope these simple printables will be helpful for you as you take care of your animals and look out for their wellbeing! Want to save this post to revisit later? Be sure to pin the image below so you can find it easily! Happy Organizing!