

REHOMING YOUR PET (Non-SPCA Alumni)

If you are sadly unable to care for your pet any longer, we offer tips below to help you rehome your pet safely:

- Take your time choosing a suitable possible home for your pet. Be patient to ensure you find the best match for the wellbeing of your dog or cat.
- Gather all of your pet's vet records and make sure he or she is up to date on all vaccines as well as spayed or neutered.
 - Check out the SPCA's Low-Cost Cody's Clinic if your pet needs to be altered or vaccinated.
- Work on your pet's manners.
 - Continue to work on manners at home as well as socialization. A trick or two can add to your pet's appeal to potential adopters.
- Social Media and marketing your pet:
 - Choose some great photos and write up a story that captures your pet's personality.
 - Always be honest and upfront about why you need to rehome your pet including any of the pet's medical and/or behavior issues.
 - Information on the type of home your pet would thrive in as well as fun things your pet likes to do.
 - Create a rehoming flyer to share and spread the word through friends, family, coworkers, and on social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram or your local NEXTDOOR app.
 - Put flyers up in places such as pet stores and your vet's office.
 - Share with all your friends so they can help you spread the word.

I've found someone who is interested. What do I do now?

- Speak with potential new families to see if they are a good match for your pet. Have a list of potential questions all set and ready to use as a guide for your conversation.
 - Ask questions, such as, "*What have your previous pets been like?*" or "*What are you looking for in a companion?*" and "*What questions do you have for us?*"
 - Gathering information can help determine if they can meet the time and financial commitment needs of the animal.
 - Do they have landlord consent and references you can check?
- If you think things might be good, have an in-person meeting.
- Take your time making the decision. Rehoming your pet is a difficult decision.
- Set up good communication with the new family so that you can follow up post rehoming. It also lets them know you are available to answer any questions or concerns they may have during the transition.

You've found the right new home. Now what?

Once you have found the perfect home for your pet, the rehoming process can begin.

- Make sure to give the new owner copies of all the pet's veterinary records. Be sure to check ask for and check references.
- Provide some of their favorite toys, bedding, litter box, kennel and/or other familiar items to help the pet transition.
- Give the new owner some of the food your pet has been eating so that they can transition them slowly to a new diet if they choose.
- If your pet is microchipped, Update the microchip with the new owner's contact information.