

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR CAT TO LIKE THEIR CARRIER

Make travel and veterinarian visits easier by helping your cat feel safe in their carrier.

- 1 Set the carrier up to be part of your cat's everyday environment**
Place it in quiet spot with blankets and toys so your cat treats it as a safe and comfortable space rather than something to avoid. Encourage them to rest or nap in their carrier and praise and reward them when they enter it on their own.
- 2 Create positive associations**
Feed meals near the carrier and gradually place their food bowl closer and closer; eventually place treats, or even meals, in the carrier itself.
- 3 Practice closing the door**
Once your cat enjoys going into their carrier on their own for a while, move on to this next step by closing the door for just a few seconds at a time. Gradually increase how long the door is closed and reward them for being calm. If they do get stressed, stop and try again at another time.
- 4 Add movement**
To prep your cat for eventual transportation (once they are regularly comfortable with being in their crate with the door closed) lift the crate and walk around the home to help them get used to movement in a safe environment.
- 5 Start with short trips**
Before bringing your cat to a stressful place like the veterinarian hospital, take them on short trips and gradually increase the transport time with each trip.

Patience and positivity are key to helping your cat feel safe and stress-free!