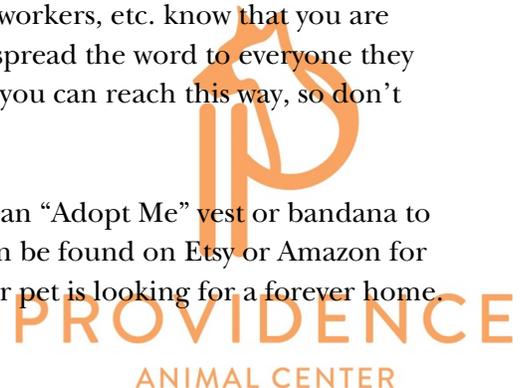


How to Re-home Your Pet

Unfortunately, there is not always space at local animal shelters to take your pet. While re-homing your pet can take some time and effort, it can also be shorter than the waiting lists at shelters and also means your pet can avoid the stress of a shelter environment. The following suggestions will help you promote your pet for adoption and help him or her find a new forever home.

Advertising

1. A picture is worth a thousand words
 - a. Get some photos (and maybe some cute video clips) of your pet to show off to potential adopters. Check out dogtime.com for some great tips on photographing your pet.
2. Flyers, flyers and more flyers
 - a. Make a short, attention-grabbing flyer that includes a few of the photos you took along with a brief description of the pet and your preferred contact information.
 - b. Hang the flyers all over your community.
 - i. Try local vets, pet stores, grooming/boarding facilities, libraries, gyms, grocery stores and your workplace. Be sure to ask before posting when appropriate.
3. The power of social media
 - a. Use social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to promote your pet. Place pictures and any good video clips you might have of your pet on your social media sites, and ask friends and family members to re-post (or share) your content.
 - b. You can also post your pet's photo and information on general adoption websites such as petfinder.com and petbond.com.
4. Rescues to the rescue
 - a. While local shelters are often overcrowded, breed-specific rescues may be able to help if you have a pure-bred (or almost pure-bred) or an exotic animal.
 - i. A simple Google search should include your pet's breed and your state. For example, "Poodle rescues in Pennsylvania"
 - b. Ask if such groups will let you put up a "courtesy listing" on their website or social media pages, or if you can attend one of their adoption events with your pet.
5. Word of mouth
 - a. Let all of your friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, etc. know that you are looking to re-home your pet, and ask them to spread the word to everyone they know. You'd be surprised at how many people you can reach this way, so don't under-utilize this simple method.
6. Dress up your pooch
 - a. If the pet you are rehoming is a dog, get them an "Adopt Me" vest or bandana to wear when you go out with your dog. These can be found on Etsy or Amazon for less than \$20 and will let people know that your pet is looking for a forever home.



Placement

1. Get your pet adoption-ready
 - a. Before placing your pet with a new family, make sure he or she is up-to-date on vaccines and spayed or neutered. Providence Animal Center offers these services at low-cost, so check out our website: providenceac.org, or call at 610-566-1370 ext. 3 to set up an appointment.
2. Screen and interview potential adopters
 - a. It is worth taking out some time to get to know potential adopters, as not every potential home has good intentions or will make a suitable match. Check out [Petfinder's list of questions](#) to ask potential adopters for a great place to start.
 - b. If the potential adopter is someone you barely know, asking and completing a home visit is a good idea. If the adopter has had pets in the last few years, ask for a vet reference or proof that pets are, or were, vaccinated and spayed or neutered.
3. Be honest
 - a. When screening and interviewing potential adopters, don't gloss over any quirks, behavior issues or medical problems your pet has. You want to set your pet up for success with his or her new family, and the best home is a well-prepared one, so give adopters the full picture of the pet they will be taking home.
4. Make the transition
 - a. Give the new family your pet's, bed, crate, toys, etc. and copies of your pet's medical records. If your pet is microchipped, remember to call the microchip company to have the information transferred to the new owner (most microchip companies will only allow the person whose name is on the chip to change the information, so you have to do this, not the new adopter).
 - b. You can also make a "cheat sheet" for the new owner with basic information about the pet's feeding, bathroom and walking schedule as well as list of commands your pet knows as this can help ease the transition for both your pet and his or her new family.



PROVIDENCE
ANIMAL CENTER

Lifesaving. Adoption. Wellness. Community.