

Airline Travel with Your Dog

When traveling on a plane with your dog is necessary

Step One:

Before you get on the plane, the airport can be stressful for a dog. Practicing extensively ahead of time at the airport is highly recommended. Your dog will need to be able to tolerate being close to strangers and to remain calm during routine cabin services.

Work on ignoring people and other dogs, walking politely on a leash, backing up, "leave it," "down," and staying down for long periods.

Step Two:

- Notify the airline ahead of time that you will be traveling with a dog.
- **Exercise your dog.** Make sure your dog is well exercised mentally and physically before flying.
- **Limit food and water intake before the flight.** Do not feed your dog a regular meal on the day of travel to reduce the risk of airsickness. Instead, reward behavior with tiny pieces of food throughout the trip.
- Make sure that your dog has several bathroom opportunities before entering the airport.

Step Three:

Check in and then take your dog to the pet relief area. Be ready to navigate through security. **When you arrive at the security checkpoint, notify the TSA screening officer that you are traveling with a dog.**

On the plane, speak to the person sitting next to you. Introduce yourself and your dog and offer reassurance.

Bring a clean up kit consisting of a diaper, disinfectant wipes, and plastic bags just in case of a mishap.

Go directly to the relief area after landing.



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