

REHOMING A PET

WHERE TO DO THIS



ONLINE

Online Platforms are the fastest way to share over a large and diverse audience.

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Such as **Facebook** and **Instagram**

Search Nation-wide pages

E.i. RESCUE CATS AND KITTENS FOR ADOPTION - NZ WIDE

or local pages

Auckland Cat/Kitten Rescue Adoption Network (etc. for auckland region)

Pets for Rehoming/Rescue Rotorua, Tauranga, Hamilton & Ruapehu NZ (etc. for Tauranga region)

and **Community pages and Notice Boards**

E.i. Tauranga Local Noticeboard

REHOMING PLATFORMS

Friends with tails

<https://friendswithtails.co.nz/>

Myhooman

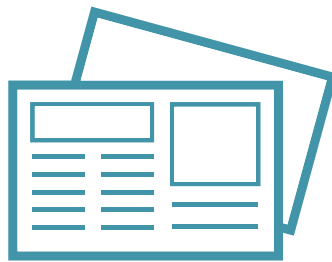
<https://myhooman.com/>

Trademe

<https://www.trademe.co.nz/a/marketplace/pets-animals/cats>

Neighbourly





<https://www.neighbourly.co.nz/>



PRINT

Print reaches a different audience, particularly an older generation and foot traffic.

Try posters or flyers on local community notice boards such as in:

-  **Supermarkets**
-  **Social clubs**
-  **Pet stores**
-  **Vet clinics**
-  **Run a newspaper article**

FINDING A FIT

Have a questionnaire for potential adoptive homes. Things like lifestyle, family, work hours and renting vs home ownership are all are great points to communicate on.

MEET & GREETINGS

Pick a time of day your cat is active.

Tip: *scheduling around food time creates an extra incentive for them to be alert and curious.*

Set up the visit in a familiar space, where your cat is usually most relaxed. **Tip:** *Close doors and windows to avoid an escape route.*

Watch how the prospective families interact with the cat and vice versa. Cats are great judges of character!

Organise follow up visits if more time to make a decision is needed.

Disclose any medical history.

Be upfront if you feel it's not a good match.

PLAN AHEAD FOR THEIR ADOPTION!

Checklist: Is your cat in good health, desexed and current with their flea and worm treatments? If not, get these sorted before they go!

Offer to transport them to personally help them settle into their new home.

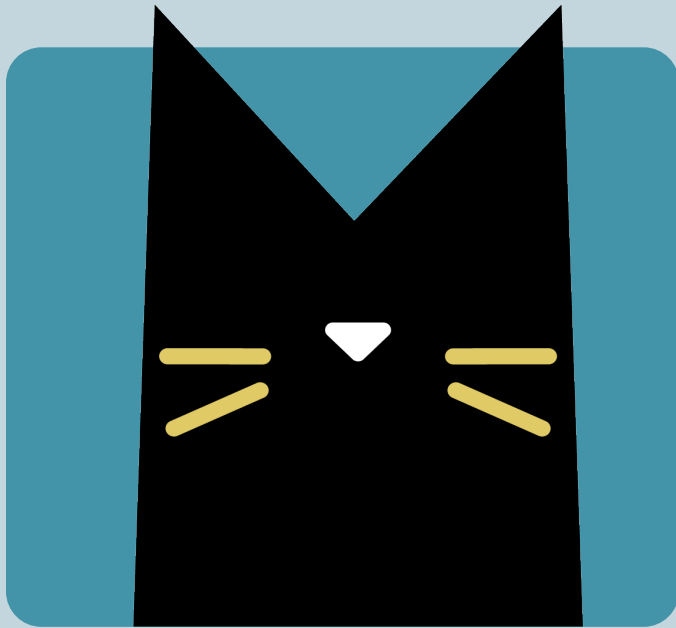
Consider gifting bedding, toys or food to help with transitioning.



REHOMING A PET

ADVERTISING YOUR PET

HELLO, I'M...



I'M LOOKING FOR A
NEW HOME

THIS IS WHAT MAKES ME ME.
MY AGE, MEDICAL HISTORY, LOCATION AND
QUIRKS ARE:

THE PERFECT HOME FOR ME IS...
ARE KIDS OK? DO I GET ON WITH OTHER PETS?
DO I NEED SOMEONE AT HOME OR ARE
FULL TIME WORKERS A GOOD FIT ETC.

INTRODUCE YOUR PET

TAKE A GOOD PICTURE.

Aim for a clear, high quality snapshot with your cat as the focal point and not too much going on in the background.

Try for one or two that really captures their personality.

I'M SPECIAL

Cover the basics but also take time to explain what makes your pet special.

I NEED A NEW HOME BECAUSE

Focus on their good points but be transparent if there are reasons they can't stay with you. Explaining why they need a home can help their potential new families decide if they'd be a good fit before investing in the adoption process.

WHAT'S BEST FOR THEM

Consider what lifestyle they've been living and if they'd adjust well to change or they need a similar environment.



REHOMING A PET

SETTLING IN TIPS

GIVE THEM A SAFE SPACE

The general rule is 3 days to decompress, 3 weeks to feel at home. Your new pet will need a few days to get used to the smells, sounds and habits of their new household so keeping them in a separate space, with a hideout if they need one, will help them settle in their new life.

Start small, once they're comfortable with their surroundings you can open more rooms for them to explore.

Consider somewhere with little foot traffic/opening and closing doors to avoid a premature exit.

MEETING NEW ANIMALS

Keep existing pets separate for at least a week while your new pet settles into a routine. Introductions can begin with placing bedding/used and scented items belonging to your existing pet in the room with your new one. Meet and greets by sniffing under the door or behind a glass screen are also great! We recommend pets be kept separate for the health of both animals as the stress of adjusting to a new environment can trigger underlying ailments or behavioral issues.

During the settling in period keep food, water and litter boxes separate so there's no competition. Toys and your cuddles can be shared. Up to date vaccinations are recommended and always make sure both animals are in good health before there's any contact.

DIETARY

Where possible, keep them on the food they're used too and slowly wean them over to the new food if you'd like to change their diet. Transitioning 1/5 of their plate at a time is recommended for a standard transition.

Should they have trouble adjusting slow down the transition, introduce a probiotic or use plain, shredded chicken breast between meals.

TOILETING

Ask their foster parent what litter works best and set aside at least one litter tray per cat where they'll be toileting most. While they're getting used to their new home we recommend a couple of options if they have multiple rooms to choose from - e.g. one in their safe place and one in the lounge.

If they're shy, a covered option may suit them better than an open box.

When they start transitioning to the outside world they may naturally begin to toilet outside. If this isn't the case slowly move their litter box closer to the door and eventually outside (have a dedicated one inside in the event of accidents).

GOING OUTSIDE

Naturally your pet will be curious to see the outside world. Wait until they are settled and know their surroundings before letting them out. Be careful to close doors and windows during this period as they can be escape artists! The recommended time is 2 weeks but you can gauge what is best for your pet's personality and confidence level. The more confident they are the quicker they can to explore safely!

Be mindful of the time of day, who's coming and going from the property and neighbouring animals when considering this step. Supervised outings of an hour or so around mealtimes are a good place to start.

REGISTER YOUR MICROCHIP!

If your cat/kitten has a microchip it will need to be registered to your name. Registering their chip adds them to a national database so that if they're ever lost they can be returned to you.

You can do this on <https://www.animalregister.co.nz/>. If they are registered to a different guardian, ask them to Rehome the cat on the NZCAR system. They'll find a link to do this on their user profile.

MOST IMPORTANTLY...

Be patient and kind. It's a big change and the start of their happily ever after.

