



TIPS FOR SETTLING A NEW PET



Ararat Rural City

Bringing a new pet home is an exciting experience, but it also requires preparation, patience, and care.

Pets need time to adjust to their new environment, so creating a calm, safe space and establishing a consistent routine is essential.

Early vet visits, basic training, and gradual socialisation help ensure their health and confidence, while understanding that each animal adapts at its own pace promotes a strong, trusting bond.

Additionally, following local rules, registration, and safety measures keeps your new companion secure and happy in their new home.

Here are some tips to help your pet settle into its new home:

Give Them Time to Settle In

- Your new pet might be nervous, shy, or even a little overwhelmed at first.
- Keep things calm and quiet — avoid too many visitors or loud noises.
- Let them explore at their own pace and create a safe, comfortable space (a bed, crate, or quiet room) where they can rest.

Stick to a Routine

- Pets feel more secure when they know what to expect.
- Feed, walk, and play at consistent times each day.
- Gradually introduce new experiences and people so your pet can build confidence.

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Arrange a Vet Check

- Book a visit to your local vet within the first week.
- Your vet will check overall health, confirm vaccinations and microchip details, and discuss desexing if needed.
- This is also a good time to ask about diet, parasite prevention, and behaviour advice.

Start Training and Socialisation Early

- Begin basic training (such as toilet routines or simple commands) as soon as possible.
- Use positive reinforcement — praise, treats, and patience go a long way.
- Gradual socialisation helps prevent anxiety and behaviour issues later.

Be Patient and Understanding

- Remember that every pet is different. Some settle in quickly, while others may take weeks to adjust.
- Accidents, barking, or hiding are normal during the transition. Stay calm and consistent.
- Building trust and routine will help your new companion feel secure and happy.

Check Local Rules and Registration

- Make sure your pet is microchipped and registered with Council.
- Check fencing or enclosures are secure to prevent escapes.



Further information

- More things to think about before adopting a pet - www.rspca.org.au
- Questions about registration and microchipping in Ararat Rural City - (03) 5355 0200 2