

Safely Rehoming Your Pet

If you are in a situation where you must re-home your pet, hopefully these tips will be of assistance to you.

Don't ever feel like you must to give your pet away to just anyone. When rehoming, ask the potential new owner about their intentions, why they want the pet, how they will treat it and take care of it for the future. Ask to see the places where the animal will be kept, how much exercise (dog) they will get etc. If you have a funny feeling about someone, you are within your rights to say no. Don't feel under any pressure to rehome your pet to someone you don't feel comfortable with.

Please remember that we are here to help if you are not able to rehome your pet after going through all the below options. Whilst we are a last resort, we want your pet to go to a safe and happy home. If you have tried all these avenues of rehoming and still have no luck, please contact us again.

We can accept surrenders in certain circumstances, depending if we have space at our facility. We also perform a temperament assessment (on dogs) to see if they are suitable for rehoming. Please contact us at Campbelltown Animal Care Facility on 4645 4790 for advice and support if needed.

Reasons for rehoming - moving/homeless

If you need to rehome due to moving and/or your landlord not allowing you to have your animal where you live, you can request our template for a 'Pet Agreement' and 'Pet Resume'. These documents show you are a responsible pet owner willing to put in place arrangements to keep your animal.

If you find yourself to be homeless or come into some serious financial hardship, please contact the RSPCA (9770 7555) or Animal Welfare League (8899 3333). These welfare organisations have programs in place to assist the homeless and their pets.

Dealing with behavioural issues

If you're rehoming due to a behavioural issue, please initially seek advice of a qualified trainer/behaviourist on the problem. Many problem behaviours can be easily fixed with the help of a professional.

If this isn't worked on, behavioural issues will not be resolved even after being rehomed, essentially passing on the issue to the new owner. Sometimes it can be difficult to understand your pet's behaviour and speaking to a reputable professional can help resolve problems, and usually have you living in harmony soon enough.

Allergic to your pet?

If you're rehoming due to allergies, please initially have tests done by your doctor to determine the origin of the allergy. There are many ways to reduce allergens in your home and effective medications.

The animal rehoming process

Rehoming can be a long process, taking up to 3 months or more. If you have a time limit on finding a new home for your pet, you may need to consider putting the animal into temporary boarding or have someone temporarily care for the animal for you until a permanent home can be found.

By law, your animal/s must be microchipped before going to a new home. If a litter is being rehomed, they all must be microchipped and vaccinated. Ensure all vet work is up to date including worming and flea treatment and provide this to the new owner. Ideally have the pet desexed to prevent unwanted

litters.

Methods for rehoming are on the following page.

How do I rehome my pet?

Ask family and friends if they are able to offer either temporary accommodation (if you are on a time limit) or a permanent home for your animal.

Local Vet

Contact your local vet to see if they are able to assist in any way. Also put posters up advertising the rehoming of your pet in vets, pet shops, groomers and any other shops or establishments that will allow you to do so.

Rescue Organisations

Research and contact breed specific rescue groups. There is a rescue group for almost every breed of dog.

You can find a rescue group directory on www.petrescue.com.au - under 'Menu', click on 'Rescue Directory'. These groups are mainly run by volunteers and are often full saving animals from being euthanised. However, they can offer helpful advice, advertise the animal for you and may be able to offer additional assistance with rehoming your pet.

Registered Breeders

If you adopted your pet from a registered breeder, contact the breeder. They may be able to take the animal back or offer assistance.

Social Media

Advertise on social networking sites, especially Facebook. Don't advertise free to good home. You can also advertise on other social networking (such as Instagram) or websites if you have access to them. Place an advertisement on Gumtree or Trading post for rehoming the animal, and just filter out enquiries as necessary.

For Facebook, post a clear and nice photo of your pet, along with an accurate description of how amazing they are, your contact number (for more information) and that they need a loving new home. Post this on your personal Facebook page as well as asking your friends and family to do the same and to share your post as well. You can also post on other Facebook pages and groups such as lost and found, rehoming pages, and rescue group pages.