

Why choose a professional pet sitter to care for your pets?

Psychological research shows that animals are most comfortable in a familiar environment. Many veterinarians recommend that pets stay at home when their owners are away so that they maintain their regular diet, which avoids digestive problems, and sleep and play in their accustomed places, with familiar smells and sights. In addition, there's no risk of acquiring diseases or parasites from other animals in a kennel.

- Most pets, especially cats and dogs, like routine. Using the services of a professional pet sitter will enable your pets to keep their normal eating, playtime, exercise, and sleep routines.
- When your pet stays in his own home, he won't be stressed from being transported to a strange place.
- Your pet will be able to stay in his own home where he is most comfortable, with the sights, sounds, and smells to which he is accustomed.
- If your pet is on medication, or other medical treatment, your pet sitter will be able to keep him on his regular schedule.
- Your pet will not be exposed to illnesses that may be contracted at a kennel.
- Having a pet sitter come to your home also works as a crime deterrent. Most pet sitters will bring in the mail, turn lights off/on, open/close draperies, etc. to help give your home a lived in look. And, in the event of an emergency, they will be able to contact you immediately rather than you coming home to find a problem with your home.
- You won't have to inconvenience family or friends. While they may mean well, and intend to give excellent care, sometimes they may fall short of your expectations. When you hire a professional pet sitter, it creates a business relationship with clear expectations for you and your pet sitter.
- Many pet sitters further their education and continue to improve their skills in order to give your pets the best care possible (first aid training, pet CPR, pet behavior seminars, etc.).
- Your pet will get consistent and personalized care from one person who knows your pet well. Most pet sitters will become quite fond of your pets and will give them excellent care!
- It's more convenient for you. You won't have to carve time out of your busy schedule to drop off or pick up your pet from a kennel.
- Your pet will be home, waiting at the door to greet you when you come home!

While pet sitting is by far the best choice for the majority of pets, it may not be ideal for some. Pets with separation anxiety, other behavioral issues, or pets with delicate medical conditions may do better in a kennel or veterinary boarding facility. If you have concerns, be sure to talk to your pet sitter or veterinarian, who will be able to help you determine the best option for your pet. At Southern Paws our #1 priority is the safety of your pets!