



Please see the below tips for preparing and crating your feline for a Veterinary visit:

- Always have your feline's carrier out and open so he or she may acclimate to it. You can throw treats or even a meal into the carrier so your feline can associate the carrier with a comfortable & safe space.
- Try using pheromones (example: Feliway) in the carrier or a room the carrier is left open in.
- Timing can be the key. When you have a scheduled veterinary appointment, start trying to get your pet into the carrier earlier than you think you will need to (we suggest 2 hours prior to your appointment). One good key to timing is locating your pet. Once located, try herding into the room your pet carrier is open in (some will keep the carrier in a bathroom or small room where there are not many places to hide). If unable to do this, try to get into a room and then bring the carrier into that room and shut the door.
- When it's time to put in the carrier, move calmly and quietly. Use a towel to pick your pet up to place into the carrier. Using a towel makes them feel calmer and prevents them from scratching.
- In colder temperatures it is suggested placing a lot of warm padding into the carrier and possibly covering the carrier with a towel to keep the interior as warm as possible.
- There are many carriers out there to use. Here are some ways to load your pet into each carrier style:
 - Hard plastic barn door style (shown in the above photos)
 - It is recommended to place this style of carrier up-right and slide your pet in back end first. Cats seem less sure of what's happening and less likely to argue with their claws if they can't see where they are going and feel like they are falling backward.
 - Hard plastic carrier with a top opening (like a roof)
 - In these, the space into which they go is larger than using the type that only opens on the ends. An additional plus is that the side walls are also plastic, giving them more of a feeling of being hidden.
 - Soft fabric carriers
 - These types of carriers would not be suggested for a pet that can be more fractious or difficult. It can be difficult to place them into the carrier and even more difficult for the veterinarian to get out of the carrier. If you have any trouble getting your feline into a carrier, we suggest trying one of the hard plastic carriers.
- The above tips are some great steps to take to make you and your felines' experience less stressful. If your pet is still having difficulty, please speak to your veterinarian. There are options (including medication) that may be a better alternative for your situation.