

Step-by-Step Guide: How to Rehome Your Cat

1. Assess the Situation

- Explore alternatives first. Many issues, especially behavioral ones, can be resolved with help from veterinarians or animal behaviorists.
- If financial or medical challenges are the reason, there may be local resources available to help you keep your cat.

2. Prepare Your Cat for Adoption

- Schedule a vet check-up, update vaccinations, and ensure your cat is spayed/neutered.
- Gather all medical records and note your cat's personality, likes, dislikes, and any special needs.

3. Use Your Network

- Start by reaching out to friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers. Ask them to share your search within their own networks.
- Word of mouth is often the fastest way to find a trusted new home.

4. Create an Effective Adoption Profile

- Take clear, appealing photos of your cat.
- Write an honest, positive description highlighting your cat's personality, habits, and needs.
- Be transparent about any behavioral or medical issues.

5. Advertise Responsibly

- Post on local community sites like Nextdoor.com and neighborhood Facebook groups.
- Use reputable pet adoption platforms such as Petfinder, AdoptAPet, and Home to Home.
- Put up flyers at vet offices, pet supply stores, and community centers.

6. Screen Potential Adopters

- Interview interested parties about their experience with pets, home environment, and expectations.
- Consider visiting their home or asking for references.
- Charge a modest rehoming fee to deter those with bad intentions and to cover final vet costs.

7. Make the Transition Smooth

- Send your cat to their new home with familiar items like bedding or toys to ease the transition.
- Consider creating a simple adoption contract that allows the cat to be returned to you if things don't work out.