



## Survival Kit for Small Animals, Birds, and Exotics

**Be Prepared:** NOW is the time to get ready: compile all these supplies so that everything is ready, should an emergency happen.

Once you have compiled all the items needed, place them all in a watertight, secure plastic container, carefully labelled both inside and outside with your contact information and the purpose of each item in the kit. Check on it every three months and rotate/refresh items as indicated.

**Identification:** *Although microchipping is not practical for many small animals, some larger animals can benefit from this form of identification. Check with your veterinarian.*

- Place an identification label on your animal's regular cage and travel cage. It should include the animal's full name, address, and phone number. Including the name and phone number of a veterinarian who deals with the species is also a good idea.
- Photos:** place into your kit current pictures of you with your animal. This will help to establish that you are the rightful guardian if you get separated. Photos of your animal should include any distinguishing characteristics.

**Food/Water:** *Rotate/refresh every three months*

- Two weeks' supply of your animal's regular food, as well as any supplements required by the species. If your animal regularly eats fresh vegetables or fruit, have a backup supply on hand. This may include frozen produce, fruits or vegetables canned in their own juice with no salt, or even baby food jars of fruits and vegetables. Test these in advance to ensure that your animal will accept them. For some birds, you will also require a two week supply of gravel and a cuttle bone.
- Two weeks' supply of water in plastic containers, stored in a cool, dark place. Tap water from some systems may need to be treated before being used for certain fish or reptiles. If your animal requires treated tap water, ensure that you have a supply of treatment tablets on hand.
- Food dishes and water bowls or bottles.

**Hygiene & Safety:**

- If your animal's regular cage is not of a size that can be easily transported, ensure that you have a travel carrier or cage.



- Two weeks' supply of your animal's regular bedding material, as well as a supply of newspapers for the bottom of the cage.
- Small and large plastic bags for waste disposal. Paper towels and cleaning solution appropriate to the species.
- A blanket or towel to cover the cage. This will help to calm many animals in a difficult situation.
- If your animal requires an external heat or light source, ensure that you have something appropriate that can be transported, as well as a heavy-duty extension cord to plug it in. A human heating pad is easy to pack and transport, although it is not appropriate on a long-term basis. If there is no power available, heat can be provided with a hot water bottle. A flashlight can be used to provide light, but be sure to include extra batteries.
- Cage accessories, while not essential, can help your small animal to feel more secure. This can include a simple cardboard box or even a flower pot turned on its side.
- If your animal is in a wire cage, include extra wire and a pair of pliers to make repairs to the cage.

#### **Medications:**

- If your animal is on any medication, have a two week supply on hand. Include instructions and the veterinarian's contact information.
- Keep a copy of your animal's medical records in your kit.

## First Aid Kit for Companion Animals

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conforming Bandage - 3" x 5"     | <input type="checkbox"/> Tweezers                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Absorbent Gauze Pads - 4" x 4"   | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adsorbent Gauze Rolls - 3" x 1yd | <input type="checkbox"/> Instant Cold Pack             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Adherent Absorbent Dressing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Zinc Oxide Tape (3/4" x 1yd)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton-Tipped Applicators        | <input type="checkbox"/> Latex Gloves                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antiseptic Wipes                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Book on First Aid             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emollient Wipes                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Harness/Leash (if applicable) |