



Cat Home Visit Protocol – Vets on the Meowve

Objective:

To minimise stress for feline patients during home visits and ensure a safe, efficient environment for veterinary care.

1. Pre-Visit Instructions for Owners (Shared Upon Booking)

- **Prepare a Safe, Contained Space:**
 - Please confine your cat to a small, secure room with no large furniture or hiding places (e.g. bathroom, utility room, hallway) at least 5 minutes before our scheduled arrival.
 - This prevents stress and avoids the need to chase or search for your cat, which can delay treatment and increase anxiety.
 - **Avoid Using Rooms With:**
 - Beds, wardrobes, sofas, or any large furniture your cat could hide behind or under.
 - **Timing:**
 - You will receive a call or text when we are en route
 - At this time, please ensure your cat is in the designated room at least 5 minutes before arrival.
 - **Room Setup Suggestions:**
 - Close windows and doors securely.
 - Place a familiar blanket or bed to help your cat feel safe.
 - A litter tray and water can be added if your cat will be in the room for a longer period.
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2. Upon Arrival – Cat Assessment Location

- **Option A: In the Home (Preferred)**
 - If your cat is already in a suitable small room, we will carry out the consultation there using low-stress handling techniques.
- **Option B: In the Van**
 - If the home environment isn't appropriate (e.g. cat is too anxious, or the space isn't secure), we may transfer your cat to the van for a calmer assessment.

3. Cat Handling Best Practice

- **Low-Stress Approach**
 - We use quiet voices, gentle handling, and allow the cat to adjust.
 - Towels may be used to gently wrap and calm the cat.
 - Feliway spray or wipes may be used where appropriate.
- **Minimising Force or Chase**
 - If the cat is hiding or showing signs of distress, we will avoid forced handling and reassess how to proceed safely.

4. After the Visit

- Let your cat decompress in a quiet area.
- Resume normal routine and offer comfort if needed.
- Feel free to reach out if you have concerns post-visit.

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- **Avoid Using Rooms With:**
 - Beds, wardrobes, sofas, or any large furniture your cat could hide behind or under.
- **Timing:**
 - You will receive a call or text when we are en route, usually 5–10 minutes before arrival.
 - At this time, please ensure your cat is already in the designated room.
- **Room Setup Suggestions:**
 - Close windows and doors securely.
 - Place a familiar blanket or bed to help your cat feel safe.
 - A litter tray and water can be added if your cat will be in the room for a longer period.

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- **Low-Stress Approach**
 - We use quiet voices, gentle handling, and allow the cat to adjust.
 - Towels may be used to gently wrap and calm the cat.
 - Pet remedy spray or wipes may be used where appropriate.
- **Minimising Force or Chase**
 - If the cat is hiding or showing signs of distress, we will avoid forced handling and reassess how to proceed safely.

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