

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR WALKER OR SITTER



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Dog walkers and pet sitters often feel like part of the family. They are caring for our pets, after all! In this guide, we'll demystify how and when to tip, leaving proper instructions and other ways you can take care of those who take care of your pets!

HOW & WHEN TO TIP



Tips are the most common way people show appreciation for their pet care providers. Most walkers and sitters live by the rule that tips are **never expected, but always appreciated**.

When should I tip?

- Daily, weekly or monthly
- Around the holidays
- When the service goes above & beyond
- Anytime you'd like!

How much should I tip?

For daily dog walks:

- 10-20% is a good rule of thumb.

➤ **Pro tip:** For overnight stays, leave your sitter's tip at the start of the stay.

How do I tip?

- Many companies will take tips via any method they accept.
- You can also leave check or cash for when they arrive.

➤ **Pro tip:** Cash is almost always preferred!

LEAVING GREAT INSTRUCTIONS



Clear, concise instructions can make all the difference for walking visits and overnight stays.

For daily walks:

- Be thorough with providing information when hiring a new walker.
- Leave a note if there are any changes to your usual instructions or if there is different with the home or the pet to be aware of.

➤ **Pro tip:** Have a designated place where you and your walker leave any notes. They'll always know where to look!

For overnight visits:

- Think of any scenario your sitter should be prepared to handle and be thorough!
- Don't forget:
 - Emergency contacts
 - Security codes
 - Medication info
 - Feeding instructions
 - Brand of food
 - Normal schedule
 - Instructions for thermostat, TV, appliances, etc.
- Your contact & trip info
- Location of supplies
- Vet contact info
- Location of spare key
- Allergies & sensitivities
- Cleaning supplies

➤ **Pro tip:** There's no such thing as too much info. We'd rather have more than we need!

OTHER WAYS TO APPRECIATE YOUR WALKER OR SITTER



Additional ideas to brighten your walker or sitter's day!

Leave a positive review

- Reviews really help small businesses, and they might even earn your sitter a bonus!

Gift certificates

- Always a big hit! Some walker/sitter faves:
 - Amazon
 - Coffee
 - Food
 - Gas cards
 - Massage
 - Tech

Leave a card or note

- Birthday
- Thank you
- Congrats
- Condolences
- Holiday
- Just because

➤ **Pro tip:** It can be fun to get a card or note "from your pet."

Offer snacks & drinks

- Walkers & sitters won't eat or drink anything without permission, but offering a quick snack, water, soda or energy drink can help them refuel during long days.