



Image via [Unsplash](#)

## How Assisted Living Can Work Out Well for You and Your Pet

We all love our pets, and oftentimes seniors will put off moving into assisted living because they don't want to leave Fido behind. However, many communities will allow pets under certain circumstances. Read on for tips from the [Brevard Humane Society](#) on how you can ensure you and your furry friend are welcome in an assisted living environment.

### Explore Your Options

Senior-friendly communities aren't the institutionalized settings many people think they are. In fact, assisted living communities come in a range of styles and accommodations, with a little something for everyone. Designed to promote independence and safety, these communities help with [activities of daily living](#) in a senior-friendly environment, as well as other amenities.

Assisted living typically includes things like transportation services, common areas, meals, and planned activities. You can find warm, homey settings with pet-friendly options, and there are other fun things available as well, like exercise rooms, salons, and park-like settings.

## **Make Informed Choices**

[Selecting](#) a community can be overwhelming because along with the broad variety of options comes a broad variety of [price tags](#). You can do some window shopping online for local facilities, narrow the field, and then connect with a coordinator to arrange a tour of any facility that looks like it might be a good fit. This way, you can find the perfect place for you and your beloved pet to live and know that you'll be within your budget as well as happy and healthy together.

## **Prepare Your Home for Sale**

Once you've found the right community, you'll need to take a few steps to prepare your home for the selling market. It's a good idea to partner with a real estate agent who can take care of the important details, including recommending improvements that will make your home more competitive and command a higher price, determining a sales price, listing your property, arranging viewings and open houses, and closing the sale. The proceeds from [selling your home](#) are a great way to pay for your new living community, so it's important to get this process started as soon as you've determined where you and your pet will move.

## **Set Up for Success**

On the opposite side of finding a community that welcomes your pet, it's important to examine how happy your pet will react to this type of environment. Living in an apartment-style setting [isn't for everyone](#). That being said, there are many ways you can help your beloved friend fit right in.

For instance, nobody wants to live with fleas. To avoid a situation that will annoy you, your pet and your neighbors, you can use a special medication that will deter freeloaders from taking up residence. Look for something with good reviews and be sure to buy a product for the right size and species of your furry friend.

Oftentimes, when a pet's lifestyle is upended, it can contribute to digestive problems. While there are certain home remedies that can help, you may have to switch their food. If you anticipate that your pet will encounter these issues, talk to your veterinarian about switching to a [different formula](#) that can help them more easily digest their food as they adapt to new surroundings.

## **Habits and Hindrances**

Sometimes, our pets have habits that might seem insurmountable, but thinking outside the box can help. Barking dogs are a great example. Dog Training Geek explains they often [bark](#) in an effort to warn away perceived danger, which can be annoying to you and your neighbors in an assisted living situation. You can train your dog to only bark on command, or you might simply

need to set up space, so your pooch isn't tempted. If Fido likes to sit on the couch and watch out the window for strangers, rearrange so he doesn't have a full-time view.

Similarly, cats are often guilty of scratching up windowsills. However, you can protect the windowsills by putting a piece of carpet soft side down on the ledge, or adhere double-sided tape. Cats don't like the sensation of those textures and will steer clear. If your kitty is relentless, you can also install [guards](#) made specifically for the purpose of keeping cats off windowsills.

Not all assisted living communities are off-limits to pets. Do some shopping around to find a good match for your needs, and then try to make you, your pet, and your neighbors happy. You and your beloved pet will be sure to enjoy a warm welcome as a result.