



# Cat Behaviour Guide

## Choosing the Right Cat Carrier



Selecting the perfect carrier is the first step toward making your cat feel safe and comfortable during travel. Consider the material, size, ventilation, and door placement to ensure both your cat's safety and comfort.

### Key Features to Look For

- **Easy Assembly:** Choose a carrier with a removable top half that can be securely reattached. Always double-check that the carrier is properly assembled before lifting it by the handle to avoid accidents.
- **Multiple Access Points:** A carrier with large doors at the front and top is ideal for easy access.
- **Size:** Ensure the carrier is spacious enough for your cat to stand, lie down, sit and turn around comfortably.
- **Sturdy Material:** Opt for carriers made of durable materials like hard plastic. Soft carriers might lack the stability needed for safe transport, especially in a moving vehicle.
- **Easy to Clean:** Choose a carrier with materials that are easy to wipe down and sanitize.
- **Secure Closures:** Be cautious with soft carriers, as their zippers can sometimes be opened by a determined cat, posing a risk during travel.
- **Non-Slip Flooring:** Ensure the carrier's floor isn't slippery. Adding a blanket or a non-slip pad, like a cut yoga mat, can help your cat feel more secure.
- **Fresh Start:** If your cat has had negative experiences with a particular carrier, consider switching to a new style. If that's not an option, thoroughly clean the existing carrier with unscented soap and add your cat's bedding to make it more inviting.

### A Note on Backpack Carriers

Backpack carriers can seem like a fun and convenient option, but they come with some cautions:

- **Size and Comfort:** Many backpacks are too small for an average cat and lack sufficient space for them to lie down comfortably. Always check the dimensions before purchasing.
- **Stability:** Backpacks can bounce around during walks, making the ride uncomfortable. Wear the backpack on your front so you can stabilize it with your arms, monitor your cat's reactions and offer treats to create positive associations.
- **Ventilation:** Poor airflow in some backpacks can lead to overheating. Choose one with adequate ventilation and monitor your cat's breathing.
- **Structure:** Soft-shelled carriers and backpacks may collapse under the weight of a cat. Select a backpack with a rigid frame that maintains its shape.



# Cat Behaviour Guide

## Choosing the Right Cat Carrier



---

### Conclusion and Next Steps

Choosing the right carrier can significantly improve your cat's comfort and willingness to travel with you. Once you've selected the perfect carrier, explore our guides on Cat Carrier Training and Traveling in a Car with Your Cat to ensure smooth and stress-free adventures.

### Additional Resources:

For more free resources and information on companion animals, visit our website at:

<https://www.edmontonhumanesociety.com/>

### Did You Know?

You can also ask us behavioural questions by emailing: [askthespecialist@edmontonhumanesociety.com](mailto:askthespecialist@edmontonhumanesociety.com)

It takes approximately \$7 million to keep the Edmonton Humane Society operational for one year and 40% of these funds come from generous donations made by supporters like you. Help by [Donating](#) today.