

The Big Move

Keeping stress level low for the kitties is a prime concern.

By Suzanne Stowe

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Chloe helping with the packing. Those of you that read my blog on a regular basis know I've had a busy past few months. First, I spent a few months searching for the perfect home offering assisted living for my mom and her pet dog and cat. Then four days after I got Mom moved, I had to have surgery. Then, the day after Thanksgiving, I moved into Mom's condo.

Before the move, I had to clean out Mom's old possessions and have the condo thoroughly cleaned. Luckily I found a woman who was invaluable in helping me get the condo ready for the big move.

In preparation for the move, I started packing before my surgery, because I knew I would not be able to lift anything heavy or bend over after surgery. The cats enjoyed this part of the move greatly. Their favorite activity during this time was playing kitty king of the mountain. They would climb to the top of the boxes and meow loudly, announcing their superiority to me.

My biggest concern on moving day was the kitties and making sure the move caused them as little stress as possible. I shook the treat bag the morning of the move and got each cat into their own carrier. I didn't want any opportunity for them to run out of a door.

My friends, who are fellow cat lovers, volunteered to help and they were appointed cat movers. They loaded the three cats in their carriers and two litterboxes into their SUV and took them over to the condo while I stayed with the movers. Once they arrived at the new house, they unloaded the cats into a bathroom and let them out of their carriers so they could go potty and relax a little.

After everything was unloaded and everyone gone, I opened the bathroom door to check on the cats. Only Chloe seemed stressed and upset. Baby and Zooney came out right away and sniffed around. Chloe took about an hour before she felt calm enough to check everything out. But by that night, all were eating and when I finally sat down in the recliner, all three kitties curled up with me, ready to enjoy our new home.

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