

What to Expect When your Pet Returns Home from Boarding

Your pet will undoubtedly be happy to see you after your trip. Following a few simple steps will help ease the transition back to home life.

- ★ Over excitement may make a pet pant a lot and act thirsty. He is probably not thirsty, and had plenty of water available at the boarding facility. Give him a few ice cubes to tide him over until he settles down.
- ★ Food: Ditto. But please be aware that excessive drinking and eating may lead to digestive upsets and bloating. Do not feed your pet for at least three hours after coming home from the boarding facility, and then limit the food and water you provide until he has settled back into home life. PS: Sometimes your dog will not eat as much at the boarding facility, but he still needs time to adjust.
- ★ Walk your pet upon arrival or allow access to a yard area. Excitement may also cause a change in urination or bowel movements outside his normal schedule.
- ★ Being away from home can be very exciting, and some dogs often leave the kennel exhausted but happy and sleep a lot the first couple of days they are home.
- ★ Re-establish home patterns by following a normal schedule. Pets love following a schedule – it makes them feel safe and secure.
- ★ After you pick **kitty** up be sure to keep him in the house for a few days before allowing him to go outside. Just as he had to adjust to the boarding facility, so will he have to adjust to being home again. Allow him to find that “at home” feeling again before letting him out of the house.