

# Moving House

This can be a stressful time, as dogs and cats are naturally territorial animals.

With domestication, many pets are now more attached to 'people' than 'place', but quite a few cats, especially with a stray background, can be more attached to 'place' than 'people' and find it especially hard to move house. Some people have been known to sell their house provided the new buyers contract to keep the cat!



So to reduce the chance of the cat wandering back to the previous house after moving, always keep them in the house for at least 3 weeks, gradually letting them out before meals so they will come back in with the lure of food. The old saying about putting butter on a cat's paws in a new house can actually work, as cats only groom themselves when settled and unthreatened. Also very beneficial can be **[Ignatia](#)** for grief or homesickness. I routinely also use the Bach flowers Rescue Remedy, Walnut (for adapting to a big change) and Honeysuckle (for homesickness) which can be put onto the cat's body, in the water bowl or on the food.

For a depressed, withdrawn pet after moving, **[Nat mur](#)** can work well. For pets who get anxious and get insomnia when their routine has changed, **[Arsenicum](#)** can help.

*Written in conjunction with Dr Clare Middle who runs a natural therapies only veterinary practice in Bibra Lake. Ph: 08 9494 1243, [www.claremiddle.com](http://www.claremiddle.com)*

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