



# House Sitter Preparation Checklist

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This preparation checklist is for hosts preparing for house sitters and is best read in conjunction with the article “Preparing for House Sitters”.

## 1. Prepare Your Home

- Clean and declutter key living areas
- Provide fresh bedding and towels
- Clear space in cupboards, fridge, and bathroom
- Secure valuables and personal documents
- Ensure all appliances and systems are in good working order

## 2. Stock the Essentials

### *Kitchen*

- Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Cooking Oil, Salt and Pepper
- Milk, Bread, Butter

### *Cleaning Supplies*

- Dishwashing Liquid, Dishwasher supplies, Laundry Detergent
- Sponges, Surface spray,
- Broom, Vacuum, Floor Mop Clearly Visible
- Toilet Paper, Spare Bin Liners and Paper Towels in relevant areas

## 3. Pet Care

- Create a detailed pet care guide (usually part of the house manual, cover feeding, walks, any unusual behaviour, meds, vet info)
- Stock enough food, treats, and pet supplies
- Leave emergency contact details for your vet
- Introduce your pet to the sitter (recommended, if possible)

## 4. Create a House Manual

- Include Wi-Fi details and appliance instructions
- Provide security information and alarm codes

- List garbage/recycling collection details
- Add emergency contacts (yourself, vet, neighbour, trades)
- Pet Care Instructions
- Clearly outline house rules
- Share local tips (cafés, clinics, transport, etc.)

#### **5. Outdoor and Garden Care**

- Tidy the garden and mow the lawn
- Provide plant watering instructions
- Secure outdoor tools and equipment
- Leave pool/spa maintenance notes (if applicable)

#### **6. Insurances**

- Check your home and contents insurance is suitable for your situation.
- If allowing usage of vehicles or marine craft check your insurance is adequate for the situation.

#### **7. Prepare for Their Arrival**

- Meet and Greet
- Organise key handover or lockbox instructions
- Make space for sitter's personal items
- Set out clean linen and towels
- Stock basic household items (toilet paper, soap, etc.)
- Leave a welcome note or gift

#### **8. Communication and Final Touches**

- Confirm arrival/departure details with your sitter
- Share your preferred contact method
- Do a home walkthrough or provide a video guide
- Leave a backup contact in case of emergencies
- Consider a thankyou gift