

Transport Loading

Safe Transportation of Animals



Vehicle Features

- No carpet as it is a disease vector.
- The vehicle must have rear AC/heat vents. A front-only system
 is not sufficient to safely control the temperature for the animals
 in the back.
- 3. Tinted windows are also an option for temperature control.



Washable rubber mat and plastic side walls.

Alternative van interior with no side windows & unfinished walls. More nooks to attach bungee cords.





Vehicle Loading

- Loading the van is like a puzzle! First step is to assess all the crates. Largest crates go in first.
- If you have animals from multiple partners, then arrange them in a way to ensure all animals get off at the right stop and ease of access to the carriers.
- Make sure all crates are secure & doors are latched. Double check that doors are latched! Use zip-ties to replace missing bolts or to secure doors.
- Hard-sided, plastic carriers are the best and safest. Wire crates are unstable. You should not allow makeshift carriers (cardboard boxes, laundry baskets, etc.) on the transport.



Vehicle Loading



- Largest crates on bottom.
- Notice how that no crate is face-to-face with another crate. In other words, the animal is always looking at either the back or side of its neighbor's crate.
- This set-up minimizes stress and spread of disease.
- Drape carriers with a light sheet if animal is fearful or aggressive.



Vehicle Loading: Securing Crates

- Equip your vehicle with a variety of bungee cords sizes with metal (not plastic) ends.
- All crates need to be secured to something, either to a larger crate on first level, to part of the vehicle—or a combination of both.
- Keep your stacks to no more than 3 layers, if possible. Taller stacks are very hard to stabilize. Do a "shake" test to make sure all crates are secure.



It is very important to have the metal end of the bungee on the outside of the crate, so the animal doesn't cut their lip, paw, or eyelid.



Vehicle Loading: Securing Crates

Bungee originates here. Either attached to van wall or to side vent of large crate on the bottom level.

Passes through carrier handles.

Second bungee attaches to first.

Thru handle and attaches below to front of large crate on bottom level.





Vehicle Loading: Securing Crates



Side view of bungee system



21 Crates (9 dogs, 12 cats) in Extended-Body Cargo Van.

- First stack of crates. The bungee system starts on the bottom crate on left side and ends on large crate on bottom right.
- Second stack bungee system same as first stack.
- Third stack bungees starts on large crate and ends to van fixture.

Other Tidbits

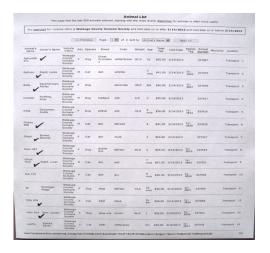
- We don't recommend built-in shelves or crates. This will limit capacity, create more work cleaning crates & slower loading/ unloading.
- Keep a supply of lightweight sheets (not heavy blankets) to cover feral traps or crates of fearful/aggressive animals. Newspaper should always be placed under feral traps.
- Other supplies to have: duct tape, zip ties, extra bungee cords, newspaper, paper towels & cleaner, hand sanitizer, admission forms, clipboards, pens, and extra carriers (if there is room).



Other Tidbits



 It's nice to have nooks to attach bungee cords. If your vehicle does not, you can easily retrofit.



- Have a check-list, so as crates are loaded, you can ensure all animals are on board.
- More information about starting a transport program can be found in the Setting up a Transport Program guide on ASPCApro.org





