

How to Relocate Barn Cats Safely

A Guide from Street Cats Club

Relocating feral or working cats requires patience and preparation. Following these steps helps ensure the cats stay and thrive at their new home.

BEFORE THE CATS ARRIVE Prepare the Confinement Area

Before the cats arrive, prepare a quiet and secure space.

Each cat should have:

- A large dog crate (one cat per crate)
- Food and water bowls
- A litter box
- A hide box (cardboard box works well)

The space should be:

- Quiet
- Protected from dogs and predators
- Away from heavy traffic

THE 3-WEEK CONFINEMENT PERIOD 3 weeks of Confinement is Critical

Cats must remain confined for at least 3 weeks so they learn that your property is their new home.

During this time:

- Feed daily at the same time
- Clean litter boxes regularly
- Keep the environment calm and quiet

This step prevents cats from attempting to return to their original location.

FEEDING

Food Builds Loyalty

Even though barn cats hunt, they must still be fed.

Daily feeding:

- keeps cats healthy
- prevents roaming
- encourages them to stay on your property

Feed in the **same location each day**.

RELEASE DAY

After 3 Weeks: Time to Release

Steps:

1. Open the crate door
2. Allow cats to exit at their own pace
3. Leave food and water in the crate

Leave the crate in place for **one week** so cats can return to a familiar feeding spot.

PROVIDE SHELTER

Safe Shelter is Essential

Cats should have access to:

- barns
- sheds
- garages
- sheltered areas with hay or straw

Avoid using hay bedding in shelters — **straw is warmer and safer.**

WHAT NOT TO DO

Important Safety Rules

- ⊘ Do not try to pet or handle barn cats
- ⊘ Do not relocate them again
- ⊘ Do not use rodent poison
- ⊘ Do not skip the 3-week confinement period

The majority of barn cats are feral and are not comfortable with human interaction.

THANK YOU!

Thank You for Giving These Cats a Safe Home

By providing food, shelter, and patience, you are giving cats who cannot live indoors a chance to thrive. We are grateful for the care and safety you are providing for these cats.

Street Cats Club