

Diwali boarding week: checklist

For pet boarders and daycares. Start 3–4 weeks before Diwali. Tick each box as you go.

1. Before bookings open

- ☐ Set your Diwali-week dates
- ☐ Set your festival rate, and tell parents before they book (weekend rates add on top)
- ☐ Set your advance (deposit) rule
- ☐ Write down your cancellation rule
- ☐ Decide your capacity for the loudest nights
- ☐ Set your last booking date

2. Ask every parent at booking

- ☐ Vaccination dates, with a photo of the card
- ☐ How the pet reacted to fireworks last year
- ☐ Any calming medicine from the pet's own vet: a photo of the prescription (name, dose, time)
- ☐ What helps: blanket, crate, toy, quiet corner
- ☐ The pet's own food, amounts and times
- ☐ Trip number, second emergency contact, the pet's vet

3. Fireworks nights

- ☐ Finish dog walks before fireworks start, always on a lead
- ☐ Check every harness and collar fits
- ☐ Quiet inner room, windows shut, curtains drawn
- ☐ A place to hide: covered crate, bed under a table, box for cats
- ☐ Fan, soft music or TV for steady sound
- ☐ Check gates, doors and windows twice every evening
- ☐ ID tag with YOUR number on every pet (cats: breakaway collar only)

Medicines and food: never guess

- ☐ Only give a calming medicine the pet's own vet prescribed, exactly as written
- ☐ Never give a human medicine, or another pet's medicine
- ☐ No chocolate, raisins, grapes or sugar-free (xylitol) sweets near pets; no lilies near cats
- ☐ Keep diyas, candles, rangoli and lights out of reach
- ☐ If a pet eats something it should not, call a vet at once. No home remedies

4. Staff

- ☐ Extra people on Diwali night and the night after
- ☐ Someone with the pets during the peak hours
- ☐ The person on duty knows every pet's medicine and time
- ☐ Shifts agreed early, and a thank-you for the team

5. Parents

- ☐ Before the stay: where their pet will be, who is on duty, update times
- ☐ At arrival: "settled in" message
- ☐ Every evening: one photo and one line, after the fireworks peak
- ☐ If something happens: tell them the same day, calmly