



Aunty Kaz's

House Sitting Interview Preparation Checklist

Preparing for homeowner interviews

Feel prepared. Be yourself. Show them they can trust you.

An interview isn't like a traditional job interview and you don't need to memorise a script. The homeowner wants to know who's coming into their home, whether their pets will be cared for properly, and whether they can relax while they're away.

1. Before the interview

Get organised

- ☐ Read the listing and your original application again.
- ☐ Review any information the homeowner has already shared about their home, pets, and expectations.
- ☐ Check the interview date, time, and time zone if you're in different locations.
- ☐ If it's a video call, test your internet connection, camera, microphone, and sound.
- ☐ Find somewhere quiet where you can concentrate without interruptions.
- ☐ Have a copy of the listing and a few notes handy.



Prepare your introduction

- ☐ Who you are and why you enjoy house and pet sitting.
- ☐ Your relevant experience with homes, pets, and household responsibilities.
- ☐ What attracted you to this particular sit.
- ☐ Anything about your circumstances that is relevant to this sit.

*You don't need a rehearsed speech. Aim for a natural conversation that gives the homeowner a clear picture of who you are. Of course, you want to know whether the sit suits you. But the homeowner wants to know why **you** should be their chosen sitter. Make sure you give them a good reason!*

3. Prepare examples, not just promises

Anyone can say they're reliable, responsible and good with animals. A genuine example helps demonstrate what those qualities look like in practice. Think of one or two examples of times when you:

- ☐ Took responsibility for a home, property, or animal.
- ☐ Handled an unexpected problem calmly.
- ☐ Recognised a situation was beyond your experience and sought appropriate help.
- ☐ Followed instructions carefully or kept someone informed.



Don't invent experience to impress a homeowner. Relevant experience from everyday life, work, volunteering or caring for your own pets can demonstrate your judgement and reliability.

5. After the interview

Before committing, give yourself time to think.

- ☐ Am I comfortable with the responsibilities involved?
- ☐ Does the arrangement fit my circumstances and expectations?
- ☐ Do I feel the homeowner and I communicated openly?
- ☐ Is there anything important I need clarified before agreeing?
- ☐ Would I feel comfortable caring for these pets and this home?

2. Think about the questions they might ask

Your experience and reliability

- ☐ What experience do you have with house sitting and pet care?
- ☐ Have you cared for animals like ours before?
- ☐ What would you do if you encountered a situation or emergency you hadn't handled before?
- ☐ How do we know we can trust you with our home?
- ☐ How do you handle responsibilities and unexpected problems?
- ☐ What happens if your travel arrangements change or you're delayed?

Pet care

- ☐ How would you handle a pet that is anxious, difficult, or behaving unusually?
- ☐ Are you comfortable following feeding routines and medication instructions, where applicable?
- ☐ What would you do if our pet became ill or injured?



Communication

- ☐ How often would you update us while we're away?
- ☐ What would you do if something went wrong?
- ☐ How would you contact us in an emergency?

You can't predict every question, but preparing for common topics can help you feel more confident. And prepare your own questions!

4. During the interview

- ☐ Whether online or in person, be punctual. If something delays you, let the homeowner know.
- ☐ Be friendly and professional, but don't feel you need to perform.
- ☐ Listen carefully and ask for clarification if you don't understand something.
- ☐ Answer questions honestly, including when you don't know the answer – don't make something up.
- ☐ Be clear about your experience, availability and limitations.
- ☐ If you need time to consider a request, say so rather than agreeing automatically.
- ☐ Do not be pressured into agreeing to something you don't want to: end the interview politely if there are major red flags.

AUNTY KAZ'S FINAL WORD

Be honest about your experience, realistic about your abilities, and willing to take your responsibilities seriously. Trust isn't built by saying all the right things. It's built by showing good judgement, communicating clearly, and doing what you say you'll do. Be prepared. Be honest. Be yourself.