



How to Relocate Barn Cats

To relocate a barn cat, you must have proper shelter, food and water. Shelter can be a barn, or a good size building, as long as it has adequate sunlight and air circulation. You will need to keep the cat in this building for a minimum for 2 weeks, to ensure the cat will consider this new location his home.

At the time of year you want to adopt a barn cat, if your building will get too hot or too cold, you need to plan on another time of the year. The safety of the cat is the number one priority.

Inspect the building for any openings that the cat could escape through and repair. After the two weeks, you can always remove any material which was used to close the openings.

During the two weeks, be sure to provide a litter box. This will help keep the building clean, as well as provide one more object that the cat will relate to as his new home. Keep it very clean during the two weeks.

Some proven practices to make the relocation most likely to be successful are:

1. Relocate at least two cats at the same time
2. Cats are confined in adequate climate for up to two weeks
3. Cats are fed canned cat food as well as dry cat food
4. The new caregiver makes verbal attempts to bond with the cats at least twice a day

A new home **MUST** provide the following to any cat:

Shelter, Food & Water, Comfort and Safety

Basic Steps on relocating a barn cat

1. Prepare the area with a litter box, food (wet and dry), water and a bed. Consider a corner that will provide a hiding place for the cat. Scared cats need a quiet, enclosed area. Maybe move some of your items in the barn around to provide a hiding place. If you have square hay, stack some up in the corner. Remember, you cannot move any of these items for at least two weeks. Longer would be better. Leave the food, water and litter box just outside of the hiding place. Only his bed should be in the hiding area. **DON'T** go into his hiding place. Give him privacy. This is his "safe" place.

2. **VERY Important.** Be sure the food containers are free of ants and other insects.

3. The building must have proper ventilation. You may need to consider a small fan. Don't point the fan at the bed and food containers.

4. Release the cat next to his new hiding place. The day you release the cat, **DO NOT** go back into the building for the rest of the day. Give the cat some time to adjust to the new area. Remember, the cat just had surgery and now relocated. He has no idea what is going on.

5. Starting the next day, go slowly and quietly into the building to give fresh food and water. Make the same sounds and say the same thing every time you go into the building. The cat will soon learn your sounds mean food. He will also learn you will not harm him.

6. The day you plan to open the building, leave the food, water, bed and hiding place exactly the same. Do not change it. Continue feeding the cat twice a day with the same words and sounds for at least a week. Good luck and we hope this document helps in your task in relocating barn cats. Thanks for saving a life!