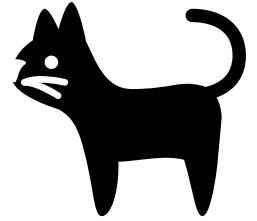


## How to Train Your Cat to Ride in a Backpack



- 1. Once you've found the right backpack, leave it open and out around your house for your cat to investigate.** Cats are generally pretty curious, so your kitty will likely sniff it out and even jump inside. The goal is for your cat to grow comfortable with the backpack on his own before you try putting him in it.
- 2. Throw treats, toys, and/or catnip inside the backpack to help attract your cat to it.** You can also try putting one of your cat's blankets or an article of your clothing inside so the backpack starts to take on familiar scents. Feeding your cat inside his backpack is helpful as well.
- 3. Use positive reinforcement. Just like with any sort of training, positive reinforcement is key.** You want your cat to associate the backpack with good things. Reward your cat with treats and praise whenever you see him investigating the backpack or getting inside.
- 4. Use the backpack around the house.** Again, cats are naturally curious. If your cat sees you walking around the house with the backpack, it will likely pique his interest.
- 5. Once your cat seems to be comfortable with the backpack, try putting him inside and closing the top for small increments of time.** Always reward with treats!
- 6. Once your cat is comfortable being inside the closed backpack, try carrying him around the house.** Maybe just try carrying your cat from one end of the house to the other.
- 7. Work your way up to venturing outside your house. Start with your backyard, then maybe a walk down your street, etc.** Eventually your cat will be ready for a full-on adventure in his backpack. Be sure to reward your cat with treats and praise along the way! Positive reinforcement is ALWAYS important.

**Bonus Training Tip:** Implement clicker training with your cat's backpack training. For example, you can clicker train your cat to get in and out of his backpack on command. If your cat knows not to jump out of his backpack until you tell him to, it will reduce the likelihood of him jumping out when you don't want him to.