

Caring for Cats in Traps

Materials needed

- Traps, at least 30 inches (76 cm) in length with removable rear doors; one per cat
- Trap dividers, at least two
- Newspaper
- Food dishes or plates (paper or plastic)
- Canned food & fresh water
- Spoon (for serving food and mixing in fresh water)
- Cotton sheets, one per trap (for covering the trap)
- Plastic drop cloth or tarp, at least 3 millimeters thick (to cover floor if needed)
- (Optional) Craft tables
- (Optional) Contractor paper (to cover surface of tables)

Feeding and Cleaning

1. Start at the front door of the trap. Get the cat to move to the opposite rear end by uncovering the sheet from the front end (ferals tend to move from light to dark).
2. Section the cat off at the rear end by inserting two dividers from above, back to back. Angle the dividers away from you (top of the dividers are closest to you, bottoms are furthest). Always use two to guarantee a cat cannot push through and escape.
3. Open the front door and line the floor up to the dividers with thick newspaper. Remove any dirty paper first. At all times, keep an eye on the cat and keep your hands out of scratching range.
4. Close the front door, check that it's locked, then remove the dividers and re-cover the front end of the trap with the sheet.
5. Go to the rear door of the trap and shift the cat to the front by pulling the sheet back and uncovering the rear end.
6. Section the cat off with two dividers inserted from above.
7. Open the rear door and line the floor up to the dividers with thick newspaper, removing any dirty paper first and keeping your hands out of harm's way.
8. Place wet food with extra water mixed in just inside the rear door opening.
9. Close and lock the rear door, double-checking that it's secure, then remove the dividers and re-cover the rear end of the trap.