

What do I need to bring to a show?

This list looks long, but read it carefully. There are good reasons why certain items are included.

The minimum you must bring:

- You
- Your cat in a sturdy carrier
- Your confirmation letter in case there are questions or problems
- Cat food and food dishes. If you have moist food, don't forget a utensil to serve the food, a can opener if needed and something to cover the open can if there will be leftovers. The water dish should be a type that will not tip easily. One that attaches to the side of the cage prevents spills and, to some extent, dipped tails. You may also wish to bring bottled water as local water may upset your cat's stomach.
- Litter pan. We will supply litter. For a litter pan, you may purchase a small pan at a pet store, a foil pan from the grocery store or even use a Rubbermaid or Tupperware storage box. (Note: A large Rubbermaid storage box with a lid makes a great travel box for the hotel and car).
- Litter scoop and plastic bag (remove waste as it appears to avoid screwing up that grooming job, particularly if you have a longhaired cat)
- Grooming supplies (brushes, powder, Q-tips, saline solution, whatever you need for spot grooming. Don't forget to tuck in a few unscented dryer sheets for sudden cases of static, a particular hazard in dry climates or carpeted show halls Nail clippers
- A chair for you to sit in. Unfortunately the other mall events got the chairs. ☹
- A spray bottle of cat-safe disinfectant and paper towels if you want to allow spectators to pet your cat. You can also use disinfectant towelettes or antibacterial hand lotion such as Purell© for disinfecting your hands and spectators' hands. Consult your vet if you don't know what is cat-safe and what is not. Never use pine cleaner.
- Cage curtains. You can use something as simple as a large flat bedsheet attached with binder clips, but you can make or buy your own. Most cages are 27"x22"x22" for a single, 56"x22"x22" for a double, but cages may vary. The bedsheet trick works better for a double cage; it's awkward for a single. Make sure your curtains are washable. Dry-clean only curtains are a pain (particularly if you or your neighbor has a spraying male!).
- Cage floor covering. You can use carpet remnant, a towel of appropriate size, a piece of fabric, a fake fur pad, or a fabric skirt. A skirt goes under the cage and drapes down over the edge of the table, which looks nice and hides your stuff under the table. You can lift up the cage and set it underneath.
- A box or two of small binder (box) clips for securing cage curtains. A couple of larger binder clips can also be used to secure the cage roof.
- A comfortable resting place for your cat in the cage. This can be as simple as a folded towel or as complex as a bed, hammock, or hanging shelf.
- Treats for your kitty! Favorite treats include boxed or canned treats, squeeze cheese in a can, and meat baby food.
- A pencil. Many exhibitors have a pen on a cord to wear around their necks. This keeps the pencil handy for marking scores in the catalog.
- A watch.
- Comfortable shoes and a sweater or sweatshirt. You can never depend on the climate control system.
- A cat toy or feather for amusing your cat.
- A small first aid kit with items to treat small injuries to either you or your cat.
- You may want to bring a luggage cart to carry your stuff and/or your cat. Walking to the show hall can be a chore!