



5

questions to
ask when
buying with

real

pets



HI, I'M ROB!

Rob Sauthoff began his real estate career in New York before relocating to Georgia in 2015. Known for blending hard data with soft skills, his work centers on transparency, tech-enabled solutions, and a deep commitment to serving his clients with integrity.

Previous to real estate, Rob spent a number of years in corporate HR helping job-seekers match with the right role. His passion for serving others

remains as he now helps buyers and sellers meet their own individual and often unique real estate goals.

When he is not busy showing houses and closing deals, Rob spends time with his family, enjoys reading a good book and hanging out with his fur-baby, Honey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Sauthoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Rob" and "Sauthoff" being capitalized and prominent.

5

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01

WHAT ARE THE LOCAL PET LAWS?

Even if you own a piece of property, it's not guaranteed that your pets will be welcome there. Depending on the number and the breed, there can be restrictions within an HOA, condo development, or even the city or state at large.

Some considerations:

- Some HOAs or condo developments restrict the number or type of pets you can have, or spell out how your pet must be restrained in common areas.
- In condo developments, there is often a limit on the number of dogs allowed per unit, or even per floor.
- If you have a breed that tends to bark a lot (ruh-roh), find out if your HOA or city enforces any noise ordinances.

02

WHAT'S UP WITH THE YARD AND FENCING?

Having a yard where pets can roam is amazing, of course, but keep in mind that if you want to keep your pets in (or other critters out), you'll have to have a fence—or build one. Yet again, check your HOA or condo covenants on this front.

03

IS THE NEIGHBORHOOD GOOD FOR PETS TO ROAM?

With dogs, finding a location that's good for walks is key. That might mean being close to a park, dog run, trail, or other green space. But even if your pup doesn't mind the commute, think about the sidewalk situation for everyday bathroom walks.

Be careful about choosing a location right on a busy road or highway; for dogs that get out frequently (or cats that like to roam), car traffic is a danger. Cat owners should also think about the local wildlife. In some areas, proximity to a green space means being closer to coyotes and foxes, which like to snack on smaller critters.

04

DOES THE HOUSE HAVE PET-FRIENDLY FLOORS?

Pet-friendly flooring is a big issue. We recommends solid hardwood since it can be refinished when it's scratched, and suggests looking for very light or very dark wood, and triple-sealing it with high-grade polyurethane (use a water-based poly for light floors, and oil-based for dark).

If you're putting in new flooring anyway, consider reclaimed or distressed wood so that the scratches just add more character. Other good flooring options include poured concrete, tile, luxury vinyl, or laminate.

05

DOES THE HOUSE HAVE A PET-FRIENDLY FLOOR PLAN?

Is the space big enough for your dog's breed? Is there enough room for a cozy dog bed or cat tree? If you're downsizing, you should take into account how a tighter space will stress your pet.

If you're looking at a multilevel home, consider whether your dogs will be OK with the stairs, particularly as they age. If you do choose a multi level home, look for a place that has a carpet runner on the stairs, or be ready to install one.

Connect with Me



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