

PET GUIDE and session prep

WELCOME to our session guide



Thanks for booking your Christmas 2025 pet photo session! We know bringing your furry friend into a mall setting can feel overwhelming — new sights, sounds, and smells are a lot to take in. That's why we've created this guide to help you (and your pet) feel calm, confident, and ready for a festive photo experience. Inside, you'll find tips for handling crowds, keeping pets comfortable, and making sure their personalities shine through on camera. Let's capture some holiday magic together!

PETS





Pets bring so much joy to holiday photos, but the mall can be a lot for them — new smells, crowds, other animals, and plenty of excitement. The key is helping your pet feel calm, safe, and ready for their moment with Santa.

A great tip? Let your pet set the pace. Some pets are ready to jump right up with Santa, while others may need a little extra encouragement (or a quick sniff around first!). Bringing familiar items like a favorite blanket, toy, or treats can help them relax and feel more at home.

If your pet gets nervous, don't worry — we keep things easygoing and stress-free. There's no pressure for the "perfect" shot. Our team has tricks (and plenty of patience) to capture genuine moments, whether that's a big grin, a curious head tilt, or a cozy snuggle with Santa.



Bring comfort items

Keep it stress-free

Follow your pet's pace

How do I Prep? the big question

Whether your pet loves to show off in a festive sweater or just feels best in their everyday collar, the goal is to keep them comfortable and happy. If you'd like to dress them up, choose something lightweight, non-restrictive, and familiar so they can move around easily. Holiday bandanas, simple sweaters, or festive collars are all great options.

But preparation goes beyond outfits. A quick walk or playtime before your session can help get the wiggles out and make your pet more relaxed. Bring their favorite treats or toy to keep their focus, and always have a leash or carrier handy for navigating the mall.

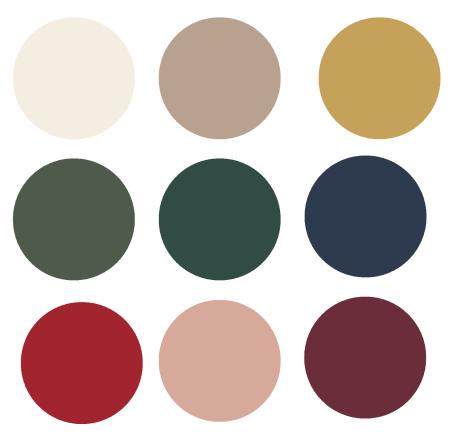
There's no one-size-fits-all—some pets shine in costumes, others in their natural fur. The best photos happen when your pet feels safe, calm, and like themselves.







WHERE TO SHOP?





PETSMART

Holiday classics like sweaters, antlers, and bandanas. Great for pets of all sizes with seasonal collections that are affordable and easy to find.

PETCO

From cozy PJs to statement costumes, Petco's holiday shop makes styling simple. They also offer options designed with comfort in mind, like breathable fabrics and adjustable fits.

CHEWY

An online favorite for variety — whether you're after matching family sets, festive collars, or winter coats, Chewy delivers right to your door.

ETSY

For one-of-a-kind looks, Etsy has handmade and customizable outfits that stand out. Think personalized bandanas, knit sweaters, or accessories made just for your pet.

JUST HAVE FUN





capture the moments

Holiday photos are the perfect chance to show off both your style and your pet's unique personality. If you love coordinating, try simple ways to match — like a plaid bandana for your pup that pairs with your family's flannel shirts, or a festive bow tie that ties into your holiday color palette. Matching pajamas are always a hit too (yes, they make them for pets!).

But don't feel pressured to dress them up if that's not their vibe. Sometimes the best photos come from letting your pet's natural charm do the work. Whether they're hamming it up in reindeer ears or just rocking their everyday collar, what matters most is the joy they bring to the moment.

At the end of the day, these sessions are about fun, laughter, and memories with your four-legged family member — not perfection. When your pet feels like themselves, that's when the magic really shines through!



TAG US TO BE FEATURED!

@createholidaymagic