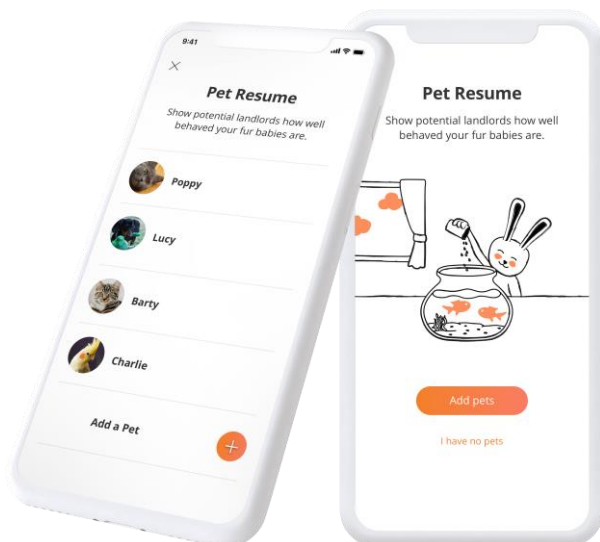


PET RESUME PASSES 100,000 MILESTONE

[Rent.com.au](https://www.rent.com.au), Australia's Number 1 website dedicated to rental property, is pleased to announce that its Pet Resume feature has now exceeded 100,000 resumes, with around one-third of users choosing to use it on their Renter Resume.

Key Highlights:

- Over 100,000 Pet Resumes created (and over 370,000 Renter Resumes)
- Thousands of pets into homes (and their humans, of course)
- Finding a pet-friendly property in Australia is no mean feat: Only 10% of Rent.com.au listings specify 'pets allowed'



RENT chief executive officer, Greg Bader said that this was an encouraging milestone for not only the company, but Australia's renting population.

"There are now more than 100,000 Pet Resumes on [Rent.com.au](https://www.rent.com.au) - a pretty terrific landmark to hit," Mr Bader said. "The ability to move into a rental property with your pet is an issue that hits close to home for many of our renters."

Despite how popular pet ownership is across Australia (where 63% of households own a pet*), renters often struggle to find a home that'll accept the whole family.

"Around 30% of Renter Resumes have a Pet Resume attached - that's less than half of all Australian pet owners and says a lot about how hard it can be to find a pet-friendly home."

"With more than 70,000 residential rental listings on our site, we can see that on average, 10% indicate pets are allowed, 40% say pets are not welcome, but about half make no mention of pet-friendliness. The last group, which keeps the option open is where Pet Resume can truly shine, allowing renters to demonstrate responsible pet ownership and provide all the necessary information to help a landlord/agent make an informed decision.

Mr Bader said the success of the feature, which first launched on the site in December 2016, reflects Australia's current rental landscape. "This level of support from our customers indicates that for around one-third, the right to pet ownership is vital," the CEO said.

"These are customers who have put in extra effort to not only create a profile for their pets but then share that information with prospective landlords and property managers at application time."

Renters pull out all stops to get the right home

Scoring a nice pad in a competitive rental market can be tough, so it makes sense that Australia's renters have taken the opportunity to provide resumes and references for their pets to make sure they're not denied a place to live.

Rent.com.au's Pet Resume allows for a photo, basic info (a bio) about the pet, breed, age and the tick all the right boxes that show Fido is not only registered but also microchipped, vaccinated and more.

While it's common knowledge that all dogs are Good Boys and Girls, having a Pet Resume can't hurt house hunters' chances of getting their paw in the door.

"At its core, Pet Resume is a quirky addition to our line-up of tools and products designed to support our renter customers, and we love it," Mr Bader said. "Renters can use Pet Resume to add a little personality to their pet's profile with a photo and a bio, but it's not just for fun, there's serious reasoning for it."

Pet-friendly benefits for renters and landlords alike

"Our data shows that in many cases landlords or agents choose not to specify whether pets will be accepted on their rental listings," Mr Bader said. "This becomes a decision left open to their discretion on vetting the tenant during the application process.

"The prospect of submitting a rental application when a renter has pets to move with them can make an already stressful time worse. But we feel that renters should have the same opportunities as others."

"Common sense applies, of course – and no one's suggesting a Shetland pony on level 38 of the Eureka Tower. But there have been several studies that show the benefits of owning pets – everything from teaching responsibility to kids, health/wellbeing and companionship. Why wouldn't we (as a community) want renters to have the same opportunities as everyone when it comes to pet ownership"

"It's reasons like this that we support the changes to tenancy reform which give tenants more rights around renting with pets, like what's happened in Victoria.

"Sadly, some renters hide the fact that they have a pet on the premises, which can cause a lot of continual stress under the fear that their landlord will discover the pet. We don't encourage this approach. At the end of the day, the best policy is being open and honest with the landlord or property manager. We find that using Pet Resume to showcase why your furry friend is a stand-out is the best tool for renters to open the conversation," he concluded.



Pet Tips for Renters

- Create a Pet Resume for your pet and submit your Renter Resume with all applications
- Honesty is key and will be appreciated
- Ensure your pup is well trained and up-to-scratch with his/her doggy manners
- Make sure your cat is house-trained
- Be prepared that you may need to pay a pet bond if you're in WA
- Have references on hand if requested - consider asking your dog trainer, vet or previous landlord to vouch for your pet

Pet Tips for Landlords

- Consider the benefits of having a pet on your property - tenants with pets are more likely to sign longer leases
- Talk to other landlords who own pets and take their advice
- Consider each rental application on a case-by-case basis
- Rather than refusing all pets, consider allowing small pets if you have an apartment (or tailor this to your situation)
- Ask applicants for information on their pet's history, training and behaviour

Presentation matters on rental applications

Byrony O'Neill, director of the Auchenflower-based estate agent of the same name in Queensland, said her office manages several pet-friendly properties and understands the importance of determining a pet's temperament in the application process.

"With Pet Resume, property managers can process a rental application with a pet more efficiently and with much more detail for our landlords," Ms O'Neill said. "We know that more and more tenants are searching for properties which are pet-friendly; we often have calls asking if anything is available. The Pet Resume feature allows tenants to show the nature of their pet, its personality and training."

Ms O'Neill said Pet Resume allows property managers to show owners that an applicant's pet is friendly, approachable and well-behaved. "We find that landlords are more willing to consider pets when they understand the personality of the pet and owner. Often, tenants with pets will go to extreme lengths to win over the landlord's approval – writing long letters, sending pictures, offering for them to meet the pet."

"Pet Resume essentially ties all of this together so that the tenant can provide these details easily for the landlord so that they can make an informed decision," she concluded.

Kate, 29, recently moved to Coburg North, VIC with her Maine Coon, Bernard (and significant other, Alex, 30) and thought Pet Resume went a long way to her application success. "Finding a nice apartment that will also work for my cat was key. I created my Pet Resume on Rent.com.au and within 48 hours of submitting my application had a call back from the managing agent to say they'd approved the three of us into a two-bedroom townhouse, just north of the CBD.

"I'm convinced that going that extra step to creating a Pet Resume to show I was serious about my application made a big difference to how things played out."

Pet Resume is available to renters via Renter Resume on www.rent.com.au and on the Rent app, now on iOS and Android devices. Visit www.rent.com.au/mobile for more information.

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Media Requests

For further information, or to organise an interview with Rent.com.au CEO Greg Bader, please contact:

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*How many pets are there in Australia? (RSPCA) http://kb.rspca.org.au/how-many-pets-are-there-in-australia_58.html




About rent.com.au

rent.com.au (ASX:RNT) is Australia's #1 website dedicated to rental property. Our rental only positioning allows RNT to legitimately advocate for renting and renters.

Our Rules

	Renters in Suits	Our renters will always be presented in such a fashion as to maximise their chances of getting the home they want
	Properties on Pedestals	We present our properties with additional and relevant information
	Flick the Forms	Let's automate where we can. We can't remove the need for you to eyeball the property before signing (yet!), but we can remove most of the paperwork

Our Products

	An easy way for a renter to verify their ID and check for any reported breaches in their tenancy history, giving them an edge on their application.	Learn More
	A convenience product that helps renters bridge the gap from one rental to another by financing their bond online.	Learn More
	A simple and free utility connection service to make moving hassle free – ensuring the lights are on and the water is hot when a renter moves in to their new place.	Learn More

Renter (and Pet) Resume

Streamline your rental search with Renter Resume. Create it once and use it to apply for as many properties as you like.

[Learn More](#)

