

We located this list and thought to include it as a guide for your therapy visits. Thanks to the "[Love On A Leash](http://www.loveonaleash.org/)" Therapy Program for posting it on their website! (You can visit them at: [http://www.loveonaleash.org/.](http://www.loveonaleash.org/))

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## **List of Manners for Visits**

This list of visit manners was created by a group of seasoned volunteers.

1. Your pet should be groomed and tidy.
2. "Meet and greet" other teams before you go in to a visit. Be sensitive to new pets.
3. Keep sensitive pets apart from each other.
4. Get permission to give treats to other pets.
5. Think ahead of time how you will handle your pet being offered treats by others.
6. Stay with your pet. Visits can be social but you must know what your pet is doing at all times.
7. Maintain control of your pet at all times.
8. Know your pet. If he shows signs of being tired or irritable, simple excuse yourself and make plans to return at another time.
9. Take potty breaks away from activity. Pick up waste and dispose of it discretely. If your pet needs to leave, it's OK. Excuse yourself and come back when you are done.
10. Be prepared to clean up after your pet. (Stress levels can be high—especially for the first few visits.) If cleanup is required, notify staff immediately.
11. We recommend your pet wear his vest/scarf at all visits. It is an honor to be able to wear it. Always carry ID for both you and your pet.
12. Respect the client's space. If someone doesn't like your pet, realize it's not personal.
13. Allow those you visit their privacy. Never disclose personal information you learn with anyone outside of the facility. Knock or announce yourself before entering a room.
14. Ask permission before bringing your pet close to someone. Ask, "Would you like a visit?"
15. When you introduce your pet, don't let the person you are visiting put their face right up to your pet or vice versa
16. Remember: Not everyone likes to be kissed by a pet.
17. Don't talk down to people just because they are old or disabled.
18. The facilities you visit are staffed with professionals. Report anything out of the ordinary.
19. Remember that the staff in the places you visit like to be visited, too.
20. Watch out for the shy people in the corner. Make an effort to include them.
21. **Listen.** Many of these people have wonderful stories to tell!