

Show homeowners who you are, what you offer, and why you might be a good fit.

Introduction

So, you've decided to give house sitting a go. Excellent!

You've found some platforms, started browsing listings, and discovered that homeowners want to know a little about the person who might be looking after their home and beloved pets.

Time to write your profile.

If you're staring at a blank screen wondering what on earth to say about yourself, don't panic.

You don't need a degree in marketing, a lifetime of house sitting experience, or a profile that reads like a job application written by a corporate robot.

You need to help homeowners understand who you are, what experience you bring, and whether you might be a suitable person to entrust with their home and animals.

There's no magic formula that guarantees you'll be selected for every sit. But you can make it easier for homeowners to understand what you offer and decide whether you're a good match.

Let's get started.

1. Think like a homeowner

Before you write anything, consider what a homeowner wants to know.

They're potentially leaving their home, possessions, and much-loved animals in the care of someone they may never have met before. They want to know:

- Who are you and what experience do you have?
- Can you be trusted to look after our home?
- Are you comfortable caring for our particular animals?
- Will you follow instructions and communicate if something goes wrong?
- Can we rely on you to take your responsibilities seriously?

Your profile should help answer those questions.

Of course, you're also looking for something: perhaps affordable travel, a change of scenery, or the opportunity to spend time with animals.

That's perfectly reasonable. Just remember that **the homeowner isn't offering you a holiday. They're looking for someone to care for their home and pets.**

Show them what you bring to the arrangement.

© Karolyn Timarkos October 2026

2. Introduce yourself

Start with a few sentences explaining who you are and what kind of house sitting you're looking for.

You might include:

- where you're based
- whether you're travelling full-time, semi-retired, working remotely, or looking for occasional sits
- the locations you're interested in
- the types of sits you're looking for
- any relevant details about your availability.

You don't need to share your entire life story. Give homeowners enough information to understand who you are and whether your circumstances might suit their needs.

And please, don't start with something like:

I am a highly motivated individual seeking opportunities to leverage my interpersonal competencies in a dynamic environment.

You're applying to look after someone's pets, not auditioning for a corporate management position!

Write as though you're introducing yourself to someone you'd like to get to know.

3. Show your experience

This is where people with little or no formal house sitting experience often get stuck.

They assume they have nothing to offer because they haven't collected a stack of reviews.

Nonsense!



Think about the experience you already have.

Have you:

- Owned or cared for pets?
- Looked after friends' or relatives' animals?
- Managed a home and dealt with everyday problems?
- Maintained a garden or swimming pool?
- Travelled independently?
- Held a responsible job?
- Volunteered or cared for someone else's property?

Relevant experience can demonstrate responsibility, practical ability, and good judgement.

The trick is to be specific.

Instead of simply writing: *I'm responsible and love animals.*

Explain what that actually means.

For example, you could describe your genuine experience caring for particular animals, following their routines, or managing a property while its owner was away.

© Karolyn Timarkos October 2026

Use real examples, not impressive-sounding claims. Never invent experience to make your profile look better.

4. Be specific about the animals you can care for

Loving animals is a wonderful starting point, but homeowners need to know more.

Have you cared for dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, or other animals?

Are you comfortable with energetic dogs that need long walks? Older animals that need a quieter routine? Cats that require medication?

Describe the experience you genuinely have and the responsibilities you're comfortable undertaking.

If you're inexperienced with a particular animal, be honest about it.

You might be willing to learn, provided the homeowner can give you the necessary instructions and support. That's a perfectly reasonable conversation to have.

But don't claim to be experienced with horses simply because the property has a gorgeous view and a swimming pool!

Trust starts with honesty.



5. Explain how you look after a home

House sitting involves more than keeping the sofa warm.

Depending on the arrangement, responsibilities might include:

- collecting mail and putting out bins
- watering plants and maintaining gardens
- looking after swimming pools
- following security procedures
- monitoring the property and reporting problems
- following instructions for appliances or household equipment.

You don't need to claim expertise in everything.

Instead, explain which responsibilities you can manage confidently and identify any limitations that might affect a particular sit.

Homeowners need to know what they're agreeing to, and so do you.

6. Demonstrate reliability and communication

Anyone can write, *I'm reliable*. It's much more useful to explain how you demonstrate reliability.

For example, you might describe how you:

- follow instructions carefully
- keep people informed when plans change
- ask questions when something is unclear
- take responsibility for problems rather than ignoring them
- communicate with homeowners in the way you've agreed
- seek appropriate help when something is beyond your experience.

© Karolyn Timarkos October 2026

Think about examples from your own life that demonstrate these qualities.

Your profile should help homeowners understand how you approach responsibility, not simply tell them you're wonderful.

7. Choose suitable photographs

Your photos are part of your introduction. Choose clear, recent images that help homeowners recognise you and get a sense of who you are.

A few practical tips:

- use a photo where your face is easy to see
- choose natural, approachable images
- include photos with animals you've cared for
- avoid group shots where no one can tell who you are →
- skip the party photos and heavily filtered selfies.



You don't need a professional photo shoot.

A good photograph taken in natural light is a perfectly sensible place to start.

8. Make the most of reviews and references

Reviews and references can help homeowners understand your experience and what others have to say about working with you.

If you've completed house sits, make your reviews easy to find.

If you're new to house sitting, consider whether people you've genuinely helped with pet care or household responsibilities could provide references, where the platform permits this.

You might also start with manageable opportunities involving friends or family, or shorter local sits that match your experience.

Don't invent reviews, exaggerate what a reference says, or describe an informal favour as a formal house sit if it wasn't one.

Build your reputation honestly, one opportunity at a time.

9. Make your profile relevant to the sits you want

Your main profile should give homeowners a clear overview of who you are and what you offer.

When applying for a particular sit, your application can then explain why you're interested in that specific opportunity and how your experience matches the homeowner's needs.

For example, if the homeowner has older dogs, relevant experience caring for senior animals may be worth highlighting.

If the property requires regular garden maintenance, explain any relevant gardening experience you genuinely have.

Keep your profile current, too. Check that your availability, experience, preferences, and photographs still reflect your circumstances. A profile written two years ago may no longer tell the whole story.

© Karolyn Timarkos October 2026

10. A simple profile template

Use the following as a starting point. Adapt it to your circumstances, delete anything that doesn't apply to you, and add in any additional details about yourself.

WHO I AM

Hello, I'm [name], based in [location]. I'm looking for house sits in [locations or regions] around [dates or availability].

[Add a little genuine information about yourself, your lifestyle, and why house sitting appeals to you.]

MY EXPERIENCE

My relevant experience includes [specific experience with animals, homes, gardens, or other responsibilities].

I'm comfortable with [the animals and tasks you can genuinely manage].

HOW I APPROACH HOUSE SITTING

I take my responsibilities seriously and understand the importance of following instructions, communicating clearly, and asking questions when necessary.

[Add a genuine example that demonstrates your reliability or practical experience.]

THE SITS I'M LOOKING FOR

I'm interested in sits involving [the types of animals, locations, dates, or responsibilities that suit you].

[Include any important limitations or practical considerations that a homeowner needs to know.]

I'd be happy to discuss whether my experience and availability suit your home and pets.

11. Before you publish: Your final checklist

House Sitting Profile Checklist

Read your profile carefully and check each item.

- ☐ Does my introduction explain who I am and what kind of sits I'm looking for?
- ☐ Have I included specific examples of relevant experience?
- ☐ Have I described the animals and responsibilities I can genuinely manage?
- ☐ Have I explained how I approach communication and unexpected problems?
- ☐ Are my photographs clear, recent, and appropriate?
- ☐ Are my reviews and references genuine and accurately described?
- ☐ Have I been honest about my availability and limitations?
- ☐ Have I removed spelling mistakes, unnecessary repetition, and anything that isn't true?
- ☐ Would a homeowner understand why I might be suitable for their particular sit?
- ☐ Have I checked the platform's current profile requirements?

If you've ticked everything, you're ready to publish. And don't forget – you can change it at any time.

AUNTY KAZ'S FINAL WORD

You don't need to be an expert or pretend to be someone you're not. Help homeowners see the real you: be honest about your experience, abilities, and understanding of the responsibilities involved.

Remember, house sitting is a two-way arrangement. A good profile helps both sides decide whether it's a good fit. No magic formulas or impossible promises. Just practical advice and common sense.

Happy sitting! 🐾

© Karolyn Timarkos October 2026