



Your Legal Responsibility as a Dog Owner

Dog owners are responsible for the care and well-being of their dog.



Under the Animals & Birds Act (ABA), failure to comply with the duty of care towards animals, including animal cruelty, is punishable by imprisonment, a fine, or both.

Penalties under ABA:

- Any owner found guilty for failure in duty of care is liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or 12 months' jail term for first conviction.
- Individuals who commit an act of animal cruelty are liable to a maximum fine of \$15,000 and/or 18 months' jail term for first conviction.
- A person who can be charged for an offence includes any person found to be caring for or possessing the animal at the relevant point in time.



Dog Licensing



All dogs must be microchipped and licensed to their owners.

- Pet dogs must not be free-roaming in public spaces.
- Dogs must be kept in the premises that they are licensed under.
- An owner's duty of care includes providing a safe and comfortable living environment, providing proper care, and preventing unnecessary suffering at all times.
- Owners must comply with the rules from their landlord or managing agency regarding the keeping of dogs.

Dog Type	Licence Fees
Sterilised	\$35 (One-time)
Unsterilised	\$90 per year

If you witness an act of animal abuse or cruelty, please contact AVS at 1800 476 1600.

For educational information on the care and management of your dog, you may contact AVS' Animal Welfare Group Partner, Chained Dogs Awareness Singapore (CDAS) at chaineddogawareness.sg@gmail.com.

Advisory for Dogs on Non-Residential Premises

Non-residential premises like factories and workshops can be challenging environments for dogs.

Due to various risks, keeping dogs on non-residential premises can negatively affect animal health and welfare, public safety and social harmony. As such, owners must carefully think through their responsibilities before deciding to keep dogs there.

In addition, security options like CCTV cameras, alarm systems, and reinforced barriers should be considered instead of having dogs guard the premises.





Looking After Your Dog's Health



Bring your dog for regular veterinary check-ups.



Sterilise your dog to prevent certain illnesses and unwanted breeding.



Provide fresh dog food twice a day in a clean bowl and under shade. Water must always be available.



Follow veterinary advice for all medical needs, including vaccinations and parasite prevention.



See a veterinarian promptly if your dog shows signs of illness, injury, or unusual behaviour.



Providing a Safe and Comfortable Living Space



A suitable environment entails:

- Adequate space to move freely, fully stand up, stretch, and lie down.
- Solid, comfortable flooring to prevent injury.
- Separate areas for resting, feeding and toileting.
- Shelter from harsh environmental conditions such as heavy rain, strong winds, and the hot sun.
- Protection from hazards such as heavy vehicles, loud machinery, excessive dust, sharp objects, fumes, and chemicals.
 - E.g. By using sound dampening measures.
- Clean and dry living spaces and utensils.
- Secure physical barriers to prevent escapes, incidents and injuries.



Keeping Your Dog Active and Happy

Provide:

- Opportunities to express natural behaviours such as sniffing, digging and exploring.
- Daily exercise through walks and positive interactions.
- Companionship of other dogs, if appropriate.



Refrain from Prolonged Leashing and Caging of Your Dog

- Use large enclosures to keep your dog safe.
- Leashes, collars and harnesses must be comfortable and not injure your dog.

