

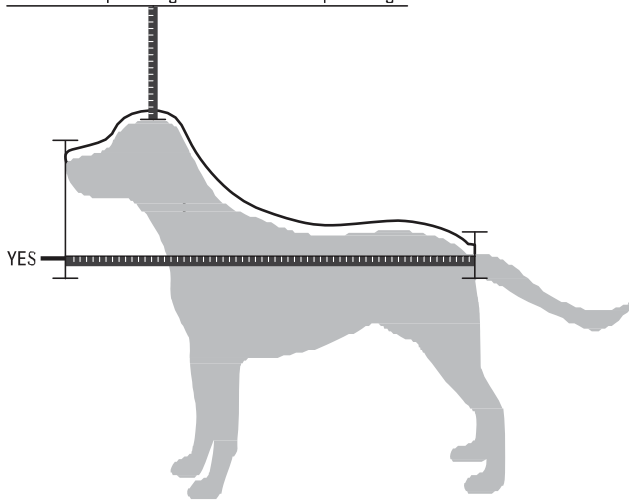
Minimum Space Requirements for Dogs

The Animal Welfare Act Regulations require that primary enclosures for adult dogs without nursing puppies or weaned puppies must have adequate space to allow the dogs to turn about freely, to stand, sit and lie in a comfortable, normal position and to walk in a normal manner. 9 CFR 3.6(a)(2)(xi) Additionally, the interior height of the primary enclosure must be at least 6 inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure, measured when the dog is standing in a normal comfortable standing position. 9 CFR 3.6(c)(1)(iii)

Measuring the Length of a Dog

With the dog in a normal standing position, or with the dog held lying flat on its side, measure the dog along a straight line from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail. Do not follow the contours of the dog's body when measuring the length of the dog.

There must be a minimum space of 6 inches from the top of dog's head to the top of cage



This table below provides a guide to the minimum space needed for dogs based on body length

Dog Length (in)	Sq Ft Needed	Dog Length (in)	Sq Ft Needed	Dog Length (in)	Sq Ft Needed
7	1.17	19	4.34	31	9.51
8	1.36	20	4.69	32	10.03
9	1.56	21	5.06	33	10.56
10	1.78	22	5.44	34	11.11
11	2.01	23	5.84	36	12.25
12	2.25	24	6.25	38	13.44
13	2.51	25	6.67	40	14.69
14	2.78	26	7.11	42	16.00
15	3.06	27	7.56	44	17.36
16	3.36	28	8.03	46	18.78
17	3.67	29	8.51	48	20.25
18	4.00	30	9.00		

Calculating Minimum Space Requirements 9 CFR 3.6(c)(1)(i) The

following is an example of how to calculate minimum space requirements.

Scout is a female Dalmatian. She is 31 inches long from the tip of her nose to the base of the tail.

Step 1: Measure the length of the dog from tip of nose to base of tail (inches). Add 6 inches to this number.

$$31 \text{ inches} + 6 \text{ inches} = 37 \text{ inches}$$

Step 2: Calculate minimum floor space in square inches.

$$37 \text{ inches} \times 37 \text{ inches} = 1369 \text{ square inches} \quad \text{minimum required amount of floor space in square inches}$$

Step 3: Calculate minimum floor space in square feet.

$$\frac{1369 \text{ square inches}}{144} = 9.51 \text{ square feet} \quad \text{minimum floor space in square feet}$$

NOTE: The total floor space for dogs in group housing must meet or exceed the sum of each dog's minimum space requirement.

Special Requirements for Dams with Nursing Puppies

The additional space required for dams with nursing puppies is determined by the dog's breed and behavioral characteristics, the veterinarian's approval and the minimum space requirement calculation. 9 CFR 3.6(c)(1)(ii) Each puppy requires a minimum of 5% of the dam's minimum space requirement.

Example: Scout has a litter of 9 puppies. Scout is 31" from the tip of her nose to the base of her tail. Calculate the minimum amount of space they require.

Step 1: Calculate dam's minimum space requirement in square inches.

$$(31 \text{ inches} + 6) \times (31 \text{ inches} + 6) = 1369 \text{ inches}$$

Step 2: Calculate additional minimum floor space per puppy.

$$1369 \text{ square inches} \times 0.05 = 68.45 \text{ square inches}$$

Scout's puppies each need 68.45 square inches of space

Step 3: Multiply additional floor space per puppy by number of puppies.

$$68.45 \text{ square inches} \times 9 \text{ puppies} = 616.05 \text{ square inches}$$

minimum amount of additional floor space for all 9 puppies

Step 4: Calculate minimum space requirement in square inches. Add Scout's space requirements to the space requirement for the puppies

$$1369 \text{ square inches} + 616.05 \text{ square inches} = 1985.05 \text{ square inches}$$

total minimum space requirement in square inches:
Scout and her puppies need 1985.05 square inches of space

Step 5: Calculate space required in square feet.

$$\frac{1985.05 \text{ square inches}}{144} = 13.79 \text{ square feet}$$

total minimum space in square feet: Scout and her puppies need 13.79 square feet of space

If the available floor space does not meet the minimum amount calculated, then the housing must be approved by the APHIS administrator. 9 CFR 3.6(c)(1)(ii)

Note: The Exercise Requirement for dogs (9CFR 3.8) includes some floor space requirements.

If the enclosure meets the floor space requirements for group housed dogs, the enclosure is in compliance with the exercise requirement of Section 3.8

Singly housed dogs must be provided with twice the floor space required by Section 3.6 (c)(1), unless other opportunities for exercise are planned and documented in a written exercise plan as described in Section 3.8.

Exercise requirements do not apply to dams with nursing puppies or to dogs under 12 weeks of age.





Minimum Age Requirements for Transporting Dogs and Cats

Sec. 2.130: Minimum age requirements

No dog or cat shall be delivered by any person to any carrier or intermediate handler for transportation, in commerce, or shall be transported in commerce by any person, except to a registered research facility, unless such dog or cat is at least eight (8) weeks of age and has been weaned.

*During a leap year, animals born from January 4 to February 28 can be sold one day earlier than the chart reading. Animals born on February 29 may be sold on April 25.

To use the chart:

1. Find the month the animals were born on at the top of the chart
2. Find the day of the month the animals were born on the left side of the chart
3. Move down from the month and across from the day until the rows intersect. This is the day the animals become 8 weeks old and may be transported legally under USDA regulations.

Example – a puppy born on August 18 can be transported for commerce on or after October 13

Day	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1	26-Feb	29-Mar	26-Apr	27-May	26-Jun	27-Jul	26-Aug	26-Sep	27-Oct	26-Nov	27-Dec	26-Jan
2	27-Feb	30-Mar	27-Apr	28-May	27-Jun	28-Jul	27-Aug	27-Sep	28-Oct	27-Nov	28-Dec	27-Jan
3	28-Feb	31-Mar	28-Apr	29-May	28-Jun	29-Jul	28-Aug	28-Sep	29-Oct	28-Nov	29-Dec	28-Jan
4	1-Mar	1-Apr	29-Apr	30-May	29-Jun	30-Jul	29-Aug	29-Sep	30-Oct	29-Nov	30-Dec	29-Jan
5	2-Mar	2-Apr	30-Apr	31-May	30-Jun	31-Jul	30-Aug	30-Sep	31-Oct	30-Nov	31-Dec	30-Jan
6	3-Mar	3-Apr	1-May	1-Jun	1-Jul	1-Aug	31-Aug	1-Oct	1-Nov	1-Dec	1-Jan	31-Jan
7	4-Mar	4-Apr	2-May	2-Jun	2-Jul	2-Aug	1-Sep	2-Oct	2-Nov	2-Dec	2-Jan	1-Feb
8	5-Mar	5-Apr	3-May	3-Jun	3-Jul	3-Aug	2-Sep	3-Oct	3-Nov	3-Dec	3-Jan	2-Feb
9	6-Mar	6-Apr	4-May	4-Jun	4-Jul	4-Aug	3-Sep	4-Oct	4-Nov	4-Dec	4-Jan	3-Feb
10	7-Mar	7-Apr	5-May	5-Jun	5-Jul	5-Aug	4-Sep	5-Oct	5-Nov	5-Dec	5-Jan	4-Feb
11	8-Mar	8-Apr	6-May	6-Jun	6-Jul	6-Aug	5-Sep	6-Oct	6-Nov	6-Dec	6-Jan	5-Feb
12	9-Mar	9-Apr	7-May	7-Jun	7-Jul	7-Aug	6-Sep	7-Oct	7-Nov	7-Dec	7-Jan	6-Feb
13	10-Mar	10-Apr	8-May	8-Jun	8-Jul	8-Aug	7-Sep	8-Oct	8-Nov	8-Dec	8-Jan	7-Feb
14	11-Mar	11-Apr	9-May	9-Jun	9-Jul	9-Aug	8-Sep	9-Oct	9-Nov	9-Dec	9-Jan	8-Feb
15	12-Mar	12-Apr	10-May	10-Jun	10-Jul	10-Aug	9-Sep	10-Oct	10-Nov	10-Dec	10-Jan	9-Feb
16	13-Mar	13-Apr	11-May	11-Jun	11-Jul	11-Aug	10-Sep	11-Oct	11-Nov	11-Dec	11-Jan	10-Feb
17	14-Mar	14-Apr	12-May	12-Jun	12-Jul	12-Aug	11-Sep	12-Oct	12-Nov	12-Dec	12-Jan	11-Feb
18	15-Mar	15-Apr	13-May	13-Jun	13-Jul	13-Aug	12-Sep	13-Oct	13-Nov	13-Dec	13-Jan	12-Feb
19	16-Mar	16-Apr	14-May	14-Jun	14-Jul	14-Aug	13-Sep	14-Oct	14-Nov	14-Dec	14-Jan	13-Feb
20	17-Mar	17-Apr	15-May	15-Jun	15-Jul	15-Aug	14-Sep	15-Oct	15-Nov	15-Dec	15-Jan	14-Feb
21	18-Mar	18-Apr	16-May	16-Jun	16-Jul	16-Aug	15-Sep	16-Oct	16-Nov	16-Dec	16-Jan	15-Feb
22	19-Mar	19-Apr	17-May	17-Jun	17-Jul	17-Aug	16-Sep	17-Oct	17-Nov	17-Dec	17-Jan	16-Feb
23	20-Mar	20-Apr	18-May	18-Jun	18-Jul	18-Aug	17-Sep	18-Oct	18-Nov	18-Dec	18-Jan	17-Feb
24	21-Mar	21-Apr	19-May	19-Jun	19-Jul	19-Aug	18-Sep	19-Oct	19-Nov	19-Dec	19-Jan	18-Feb
25	22-Mar	22-Apr	20-May	20-Jun	20-Jul	20-Aug	19-Sep	20-Oct	20-Nov	20-Dec	20-Jan	19-Feb
26	23-Mar	23-Apr	21-May	21-Jun	21-Jul	21-Aug	20-Sep	21-Oct	21-Nov	21-Dec	21-Jan	20-Feb
27	24-Mar	24-Apr	22-May	22-Jun	22-Jul	22-Aug	21-Sep	22-Oct	22-Nov	22-Dec	22-Jan	21-Feb
28	25-Mar	25-Apr	23-May	23-Jun	23-Jul	23-Aug	22-Sep	23-Oct	23-Nov	23-Dec	23-Jan	22-Feb
29	26-Mar		24-May	24-Jun	24-Jul	24-Aug	23-Sep	24-Oct	24-Nov	24-Dec	24-Jan	23-Feb
30	27-Mar		25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	24-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec	25-Jan	24-Feb
31	28-Mar		26-May		26-Jul		25-Sep	26-Oct		26-Dec		25-Feb