



City of Los Angeles Pet Store Animal Care Rules and Regulations

It is the intent of LA Animal Services to enforce the standards of care for animals in pet stores established by Section 122350 et seq. and Section 122125 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, in order to ensure the humane treatment of animals and safeguard the public interest.

Rule #	Rule
	Each pet store operator shall:
1 A	Prominently display a copy of LA Animal Services' official permit to operate a pet store in a location easily accessible and visible to customers.
1 B	Provide all dog purchasers an application for a dog license.
1 C	Provide animal purchasers with City of Los Angeles permit information applicable to the species of animals sold.
1 D	Prominently display the breeding permit number(s) of the breeder(s) on the enclosure(s) containing the animal(s) for all locally bred dogs or cats.
1 E	Prominently display the name and address of the breeder(s) on the enclosure containing the animal(s) for all dogs or cats not bred within the City of Los Angeles, or if not known, the source of the dog or cat. (H&S 122140)
1 F	Notify LA Animal Services in writing with the name and kind of dog sold and the name and contact information of the purchaser within FIVE (5) days of the date of sale or transfer. LAMC 53.27
2	Restrict the entry of pests from outside and implement pest control measures to effectively control infestation of vermin, insects, or other pests.
3	Report any animal escapes to LA Animal Services and make reasonable efforts to capture escaped animals.
4 A	Provide natural or artificial light, in a manner that permits routine inspection and cleaning, and the proper care and maintenance of the animals.
4 B	Maintain the entire pet store facility in good repair and in clean condition.
5 A	Separate grooming work areas from the store's primary animal enclosures and animal food storage areas.
5 B	Clean grooming work areas at least once daily and maintain such areas in good condition.

Rule #	<p style="text-align: center;">Rule</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Each pet store operator shall:</p>
6 A	Provide structurally sound and well maintained primary and temporary enclosures to protect animals from injury, to contain animals, to keep other animals out, and promote the health and well-being of the animals.
6 B	Ensure primary enclosures are constructed so they can be routinely maintained to allow animals to stay clean.
6 C	Ensure the floor of a primary enclosure for dogs and cats is constructed to prevent injury. A solid surface, platform, or shelf shall be provided when a grid-flooring system is used.
6 D	Ensure primary enclosures are constructed of materials that are impervious to moisture and can be sanitized.
6 E	Ensure all primary enclosures provide adequate space for the animal or animals housed in the enclosure.
6 F	Ensure each primary enclosure provides animals with an enrichment device or devices appropriate for the species, age, size, and condition of the animal.
7	Ensure primary enclosures for cats provide an elevated platform as appropriate for the size of the cat.
8 A	Ensure primary enclosures for birds are designed to allow all contained birds to fully extend both wings at the same time without contacting the sides of the enclosure or other birds.
8 B	Ensure primary enclosures for birds provide perches in a diameter that is appropriate for the species, age, size, and condition of the bird, and for the size of the enclosure.
9	Ensure primary enclosures for prey species are located where they cannot be directly seen by predator animals for that species.
10 A	Remove all animals from a primary or temporary enclosure that is being cleaned in a manner, or with a substance, that is or may be harmful to the animals within the enclosure.
10 B	Remove animal and food wastes, used bedding, debris, and any other organic wastes from primary enclosures at least twice daily to prevent contamination of the animals and to reduce disease hazards and odors.
11	Provide at least twice daily, regardless of whether the store is open, food, water, care and maintenance of the animals.
12	House only compatible animals in the same enclosure.
13	Observe each animal at regular intervals, at least twice a day, to recognize and evaluate general symptoms of sickness, injury, or abnormal behavior.

Rule #	Rule Each pet store operator shall:
14	House intact mammals that have reached sexual maturity in a manner to prevent unplanned reproduction.
15 A	Maintain and abide by written animal husbandry procedures for animal care, management and safe handling for each species in pet store,
15 B	Maintain and abide by written protocols for disease prevention and control, routine care, preventative care, emergency care, veterinary treatment, and euthanasia
15 C	Maintain and abide by a written disaster, evacuation, and recovery plan that is appropriate to the location of the pet store.
15 D	Review with employees who provide animal care all written procedures, protocols, and plans referred to above in writing.
15 E	Make available all written procedures, protocols and plans referred to above to all store employees and LA Animal Services.
16	Transfer an animal in need of euthanasia to a veterinarian without delay.
17	Use a method or methods of euthanasia that are humane, involve painless loss of consciousness and immediate death for an animal intended as food for another animal.
18	Provide adequate training to each employee who performs euthanasia in the method or methods used and proof of successful completion of such training shall be documented in writing and retained by the pet store.
19	Maintain all training records by the pet store for two years, and make them available, upon request, to LA Animal Services.
20 A	Immediately isolate and not offer for sale animals that have or are suspected of having a contagious condition. Such animals shall be removed from the pet store and transferred to a veterinarian without delay.
20 B	Fish that are effectively isolated by their primary enclosure, and have a sign posted on the enclosure that indicates these animals are not for sale are exempt from 20 A.
21 A	Maintain a documented program of routine care, preventative care, emergency care, disease control and prevention, veterinary treatment and euthanasia in consultation with a California-licensed veterinarian to ensure adherence to each animal's program.
21 B	Ensure a California-licensed veterinarian inspects the pet store premises at least once a year and the visit is documented.

Rule #	Rule Each pet store operator shall:
22	Remove each diseased, ill, or injured animal from the pet store and provide veterinary treatment without delay.
23	Ensure records of all veterinary visits to the pet store are documented in writing including all veterinary treatment records for each animal or group of animals that receives medications or immunizations while in the care of the pet store. These records shall include summaries of direction received orally from veterinarians, and shall include all of the following, to the extent it is provided by the veterinarian:
23 A	Identification of the animal or group of animals receiving medical treatment.
23 B	Name of the medication or immunization used.
23 C	Amount of medication used.
23 D	Time and date on which the medication or immunization was administered.
24	Make available records required by these Rules, upon request, to any person who purchases a cat or dog, or any individually housed animal.
25	Provide the purchaser of an animal at the time of sale information concerning the store's animal return policy. This policy may also be made available to customers through in-store signs or handouts.
26	Provide purchasers of cats, dogs, and all individually housed animals all the following information:
26 A	Spay or neuter procedures performed on the animal.
26 B	Vaccinations, medical treatment, and veterinary treatment administered to the animal during its stay in the store.
26 C	Any identification device on the animal.
26 D	All information and records required by these Rules upon request to a person who purchases a dog or cat, or individually housed animal.
27	Maintain records of the person from whom the animals in the pet store were acquired, including that person's name, address, and telephone number, and the date the animal was acquired, for identification purposes.
27A	Submit to LA Animal Services a monthly report to include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers, of persons purchasing pets, to include the date the animal was purchased by each person.
28	Maintain all records required by these Rules for two years from the date of disposition of the animal, and make these records available upon request to LA Animal Services.

Rule #	Rule Each pet store operator shall:
29	Maintain and post official notices from LA Animal Services in a conspicuous place for public viewing.

In the event of a violation of these Rules, a single notice to correct shall be issued containing all of the following information:

1. Each violation of these Rules shall be specified in the notice to correct.
2. The corrective action for each violation shall be specified.
3. A specific period of time will be specified during which the listed violation or violations must be corrected.
4. A subsequent inspection shall be conducted within a reasonable period of time to verify compliance.
5. The pet store operator shall receive an exact, legible copy of the notice to correct at the time he or she signs the notice or within 48 hours of its issuance, excluding holidays and weekends. The signing of the notice is an acknowledgment of receipt, and does not constitute an admission of guilt.
6. Failure to comply with the notice to correct in the specified time period, or any extension thereof, will be cited as an infraction.
7. A violation of the same provision of the Rules on more than one occasion within a 12-month period, at the same location, shall not be eligible for a notice to correct, but shall be cited for an infraction on the second violation, and shall be cited for a misdemeanor on the third or subsequent violation.
8. A violation of any provision of these Rules that causes or allows harm or injury to an animal, or allows an animal to be subject to an unreasonable risk of harm or injury, may result in a citation for a misdemeanor, rather than a notice to correct.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 599 of the Penal Code, a pet store shall not offer any live animal as a prize or give away any animal as an inducement to enter any contest, game, or other competition.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 597z of the Penal Code, a pet store shall not sell, offer for sale, trade, or barter any dog or cat that is under eight weeks of age. Except as otherwise provided in any other provision of law, dogs or cats over eight weeks of age may be sold, offered for sale, traded, or bartered only if the animal is weaned. Pet stores shall not sell any animal before it is weaned, except for animals intended to be used as food for other animals.

Except as otherwise provided in any other provision of law, dogs or cats over eight weeks of age may be sold, offered for sale, traded, or bartered only if the animal is spayed or neutered.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 597z of the Penal Code, a pet store shall not sell, offer for sale, trade, or barter any rabbit that is under eight weeks of age.

Glossary:

"Pet store" means a retail establishment open to the public and selling or offering animals for sale. Any person who sells, exchanges, or otherwise transfers only animals that were bred or raised, or both, by the person, or sells or otherwise transfers only animals kept primarily for reproduction, shall be considered a breeder and not a pet store.

"Pet store operator" or **"operator"** means a person who owns or operates a pet store, or both.

"Primary enclosure" means any structure used to immediately restrict an animal or animals to a limited amount of space, such as a room, pen, cage, aquarium, terrarium, habitat compartment or hutch, where the animal or animals reside until their sale, transfer, or other disposition.

"Adequate space" means sufficient height and sufficient floor space for the animals to stand up, sit down and turn about freely using normal body movements without the head touching the top of the primary enclosure; lie down with limbs outstretched and exercise normal postural movement, and move about freely as appropriate for the species, age, size, and condition of the animal, and when appropriate, to experience socialization with other animals, if any, in the primary enclosure. However, when freedom of movement would endanger the animal, temporarily and appropriately restricting movement of the animal in a humane manner is permitted.

"Enrichment" means providing objects or activities, appropriate with the needs of the species, as well as the age, size, and condition of the animal that stimulate the animal and promote the animal's well-being.

These Rules shall be known, and may be cited, as the City of Los Angeles Pet Store Animal Care Rules and Regulations.