

Owning a Restricted Dog

If you own a restricted dog, you must ensure that each of the following requirements is complied with:

- Desexing: the dog must be desexed;
- Enclosure requirements: While the dog is on a property, where the dog is ordinarily kept, the dog must be kept in an enclosure that complies with the requirements prescribed by the regulations of the Companion Animals Act; (Note: a certificate of compliance in relation to the prescribed enclosure must be obtained by the owner of the dog);
- A person, under the age of 18 years, must not, at any time, solely be in charge of the dog;
- One or more signs must be displayed on the property where the dog is ordinarily kept showing the words “Warning Dangerous Dog” in letters clearly visible from the boundaries of the property. The sign must be no smaller than 40 cm x 40 cm, made of durable materials and the letters must be at least 50 mm high and 10 mm wide;
- Distinctive collar must be worn: The dog must at all times wear a collar of the kind prescribed by the regulations of the Act;
- Dog must be kept on lead and muzzled: Whenever the dog is outside its enclosure, the dog must be under the effective control of some competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash that is attached to the dog and that is being held by (or secured to) the person, and must be muzzled in a manner that is sufficient to prevent it from biting any person or animal. A dog is not considered to be under the effective control of a person if the person has more than two dogs (one of which is the dangerous dog) under his or her control at the one time;
- The owner of the dog must notify Council;
 - Within 24 hours if the dog (with or without provocation) has attacked or injured a person or an animal;
 - Within 24 hours if the dog cannot be found;
 - When the dog has died; and
 - When there is a change in the address of where the dog is ordinarily kept;

An owner of a restricted dog, who does not comply with any of these requirements, is guilty of an offence. A maximum penalty of \$16,500 applies for the breach of any of these conditions.

Restricted Dogs

American Pit Bull Terrier (Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull)

Breed History

Throughout the world dogs have, at one time or another, been bred to fight. This breed descends from the Staffordshire Bull Terrier crossed with other fighting dogs, including the extinct fighting Bulldog.

Key Facts

First use: Dog fighting

Use today: Companion

Life expectancy: 12 years

Weight range: 14-36 kg

Height range: 46-56 cm



Tosa Inu (Tosa Fighting Dog / Japanese Fighting Dog)

Breed History

Initially bred in Japan's Kochi Prefecture, from crosses between native Shikoku fighting dogs and imported mastiffs, Great Danes, bulldogs, and bull terriers, this breed was once called the Japanese Mastiff.

Key Facts

First use: Dog fighting

Use today: Companion

Life expectancy: 9-11 years

Weight range: 89.5-90.5 kg

Height range: 62-65 cm



Dogo Argentino (Argentinian Fighting Dog)

Breed History

One of the few breeds developed in South America, the Dogo Argentino is the result of a breeding programme undertaken in the 1920s by an Argentinian breeder, Dr. Antonio Nores Martinez, to produce a puma and jaguar hunter.

Key Facts

First use: Game hunting, dog fighting

Use today: Companion

Life expectancy: 10-11 years

Weight range: 36-45 kg

Height range: 61-69 cm



Filo Brasileiro (Brazilian Mastiff / Brazilian Fighting Dog)

Breed History

One of Brazil's two native breeds (the other one being the rare Brazilian Tracker), this powerful mastiff was developed from Spanish and Portuguese mastiffs and Bloodhounds in order to track and control livestock and large game.

Key Facts

First use: Tracking, large game hunting

Use today: Companion, security

Life expectancy: 9-11 years

Weight range: 41-50 kg

Height range: 61-76 cm



Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canaria

Breed History

The Perro de Presa Canario is a large dog originally bred as a guard/fighting dog. Originally from the Canary Islands in the 1800s and are believed to have been bred from an existing farm dog, Majero bardino majorero crossed with Mastiffs and old style Bull dogs.



Key Facts

First use: Dog fighting

Use today: Companion

Life expectancy: 9-11 years

Weight range: 38-50 kg

Height range: 52-62cm

