

# Code of Animal Welfare (for the Pet Industry)



The Code of Animal Welfare (for the Pet Industry) comprises:

- **Minimum Standards** on animal housing, management and care, which pet businesses are **expected to comply** with; and
- **Best Practices** on animal housing, management and care which pet businesses are **encouraged to adopt** to further raise the standard of animal welfare in Singapore.

A summary of the minimum standards is as follows:

## 1 ACCOUNTABILITY OF PET BUSINESSES

- No animal is to be left in any place without reasonable arrangements being made for the care of the animal.
- If an animal is lost, all reasonable measures must be taken to locate and retrieve it.

## 2 RECORD KEEPING

- Proper records must be kept for identification and traceability of animals.

## 3 PEST CONTROL

- There must be proper protocols for pest management of the premises to prevent the spread of diseases.
- When used, pest management chemicals must be in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions and safety precautions taken.

## 4 SECURITY

- Shop premises must be safe for the animals and secured to prevent the animals from escaping.
- There must be a plan for animal evacuation in the event of an emergency, such as fire.

## 14 VETERINARY ATTENTION & TREATMENT

- All animals that are injured or unwell must receive prompt veterinary attention.

## 13 DISEASE PREVENTION

- All pet businesses must have a disease prevention programme that includes vaccination and treatment for parasites.

## 12 HEALTH CHECKS & RECORDING

- All animals must be monitored daily to observe for signs of illness, injury or disease.
- Records of illness, injury or disease must be kept.
- Animals that appear unwell must be isolated and monitored more closely.

## 11 HANDLING & TRANSPORT

- Animals must not be handled in a manner that will cause injury or distress.
- During transport, measures must be taken to ensure the comfort and safety of the animal. Clean drinking water must be provided as necessary, e.g. when it is hot or on longer trips.
- Carriers used must be sturdy and of suitable size to allow freedom of movement.
- Animals must not be left unattended in vehicles in conditions that could result in heat stress or distress.
- Animals must not be transported in car boots or any enclosed spaces with poor ventilation.
- Vehicles and carriers used for transporting animals must be cleaned and sanitised after use.

## 10 ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE GENERAL WELL-BEING

- Animals must be allowed to exercise and interact in a safe environment.
- Supervision must be provided when animals are allowed to interact with each other.
- During training, methods and aids used must be appropriate and must not subject animals to unnecessary pain or suffering.

## 9 FOOD PREPARATION

- Food and water containers must be kept clean.
- Animal feed must be stored properly to prevent deterioration or contamination.

## 8 DIET & FEEDING

- Animals must be fed a well-balanced and nutritional diet.
- Animals must be provided with fresh drinking water.
- Animals that are housed together must have access to adequate food.



## 5 HOUSING ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

- Animal enclosures must be in good condition, clean, safe, well-ventilated and provide proper shelter.
- The enclosures must allow the animal to move freely, turn around, lie down, stretch and stand upright on its hind legs.
- There must be a clean and comfortable area for the animal to eat and sleep.
- Separate housing must be provided for the following:
  - Animals of different species
  - Old, frail or sick animals
  - Aggressive animals
  - Parents with unweaned offspring

## 6 ENVIRONMENT

- Animals must not be exposed to excessive noise, sunlight, heat, humidity or strong winds.

## 7 HOUSEKEEPING

- Places where animals are kept must be cleaned, disinfected and kept dry.
- Chemicals used for cleaning and disinfecting must not be harmful to the animals.

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