



If you're intending to buy or sell a **dog or cat** in South Australia, this guide will help you understand and comply with South Australian dog and cat laws.

Dogs and Cats Online is the state-wide database for registering dogs and cats, including their microchipping and desexing details, and for registering breeders.

[DOGSANDCATSONLINE.COM.AU](https://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au)

7 Any person who sells a dog or cat they've bred must be a registered Dogs and Cats Online breeder.

- If you sell a dog or cat you've bred, you must be registered as a breeder in Dogs and Cats Online and pay the breeder registration fee.
- Breeders are allocated a lifetime 'DACO' (Dogs and Cats Online) breeder registration number. It appears on the renewal notice for your dog/cats council registration, or you can log on to Dogs and Cats Online to retrieve your number.
- The breeder registration fee applies from 1 July to 30 June each year. Dogs and Cats Online breeder registration payment is only required in the year(s) you sell dogs/cats you have bred.
- Dogs SA, Feline Association of SA and Governing Council of the Cat Fancy of SA members can enter their association membership numbers in Dogs and Cats Online—this will appear with the DACO breeder number when someone performs a breeder search.

8 The seller transfers the dog/cat to the buyer in Dogs and Cats Online, and the buyer accepts the transfer.

- If you are selling a dog/cat you need to transfer its microchip number to the buyer in Dogs and Cats Online, and provide the microchip number to the buyer.
- Sellers must obtain the buyers correct details (checking spelling of names, email addresses and telephone numbers) to ensure the details are correct in Dogs and Cats Online.
- The buyer must complete the transfer in Dogs and Cats Online and keep their details up to date.

To help you understand your obligations when buying or selling a dog or cat, download the Dogs and Cats Online easy reference guides from [dogsandcatboard.com.au](https://www.dogsandcatboard.com.au)

[DOGSANDCATSONLINE.COM.AU](https://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au)

Buying or selling a dog or cat?

What you need to know to comply with the law.



Government of South Australia
Dog and Cat Management Board



Your legal obligations when buying or selling dogs and cats.

- 1 Sellers must provide buyers with contact details and information about the dog/cat.
- 2 Advertisements for the sale of a dog/cat must contain certain information.
- 3 All dogs/cats must be microchipped and their details entered on Dogs and Cats Online.
- 4 All dogs/cats must be desexed by 6 months (if they were born after 1 July 2018) and have this detail entered on Dogs and Cats Online.
- 5 All dogs are to be registered with the council where they reside, on Dogs and Cats Online.
- 6 For councils with cat registration, all cats must be registered with the council where they reside, on Dogs and Cats Online.
- 7 Any person who sells a dog/cat they've bred must be a registered Dogs and Cats Online breeder.
- 8 The seller transfers the dog/cat to the buyer in Dogs and Cats Online, and the buyer accepts the transfer.

Sellers: make sure you understand these rules and have all the information needed on hand to give the buyer.

Buyers: make sure you understand these rules and you get the information you need from the seller.

1 Sellers must provide buyers with the following information in writing.

- Name, address and phone number of the seller.
- Name, address and phone number of each breeder involved in breeding the dog/cat for sale and their DACO (Dogs and Cats Online) breeder number(s).
- Any vaccination detail, the name and address of the vet who desexed the dog/cat (if desexed), and any other vet treatment the animal has received.
- Name and address of the microchipper, microchip number and date of procedure, and registries the microchip information is stored on.
- Any vet exemptions from microchipping or desexing.
- Details of any known illness or medical condition.
- For dogs, any control order on the dog.

2 Advertisements for the sale of a dog or cat must contain certain information.

- Name and phone number of the seller.
- Name and phone number of breeder(s) and their DACO (Dogs and Cats Online) breeder number(s).

3 All dogs and cats must be microchipped and their details entered on Dogs and Cats Online.

- Dogs and cats must be microchipped before sale, and must in any event be microchipped before 12 weeks of age.
- Details of the cat or dog and the microchip must be entered into Dogs and Cats Online.
- A vet can exempt a dog/cat from microchipping on health and wellbeing grounds.

4 All dogs and cats must be desexed by 6 months (if they were born after 1 July 2018) and have this detail entered on Dogs and Cats Online.

- Dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by 6 months of age (although earlier desexing is recommended for kittens) and within 28 days of purchase, whichever is later.
- Details of the desexing procedure must be entered into the dog/cat's record in Dogs and Cats Online.
- A vet may exempt a dog/cat on health and wellbeing grounds, or provide an extension of time.
- Dogs and cats can be sold entire if they are: under 6 months of age; born before 1 July 2018; or owned by breeders registered with Dogs and Cats Online.
- The following dogs/cats don't have to be desexed: dogs owned by Dogs SA members; cats owned by Feline Association of SA members; cats owned by Governing Council of the Cat Fancy of SA members; racing greyhounds registered with Greyhound Racing SA; working livestock dogs; and dogs/cats owned by breeders registered with Dogs and Cats Online.

5 All dogs are to be registered with the council where they reside, on Dogs and Cats Online.

- All dogs over 3 months of age must be registered within the council in which they reside, and their details entered on Dogs and Cats Online.
- If ownership changes, the dog must be transferred to the new owner in Dogs and Cats Online.

6 For councils with cat registration, all cats are to be registered with the council where they reside, on Dogs and Cats Online.

- There are a number of councils in SA that have mandatory cat registration.
- If ownership changes, the cat must be transferred to the new owner in Dogs and Cats Online.