

South Australian

# **Dog and cat breeding and sales laws**



South Australia has laws to regulate the breeding, sale and welfare of dogs and cats. Anyone selling a dog or cat they have bred, must follow the six basic rules below. This includes owners of animals who have ‘accidental’ litters.

## **Uphold welfare standards for breeding animals**

The South Australian Standards and Guidelines for Breeding and Trading Companion Animals set out the acceptable housing, husbandry, veterinary care and living standards for breeding animals and their litters. You must follow or exceed these standards to avoid breaking state laws.

## **Apply to register as a breeder in Dogs and Cats Online**

Everyone that breeds dogs or cats for sale must apply to register as a breeder on Dogs and Cats Online and pay the registration fee. This includes owners of animals who have had ‘accidental’ litters. Dogs and Cats Online is the state database for dog, cat, breeder registrations; microchip and desexing information. If your contact details change (address, email or phone number) at any time, you must update this information in Dogs and Cats Online.

## **Adhere to advertising rules**

Any advertisements to sell dogs or cats must include the following information for each breeder and person involved in the sale.

- Names and phone numbers
- DACO breeder numbers

## **Microchip dogs and cats before sale**

You must have puppies and kittens microchipped before you sell them and have the microchip recorded in Dogs and Cats Online.

- Typically the implanter records the microchip number to the breeder (current owner) in Dogs and Cats Online.
- When puppies or kittens are sold, the breeder then transfers the microchip number to the buyer (new owner) via Dogs and Cats Online.
- The new owner must receive the microchip number to complete the animal registration in their name.

## **Information for purchasers**

Anyone that sells a dog or cat must provide the following information to the purchaser in writing.

- Names, phone numbers and DACO breeder numbers of the breeders and sellers.
- Vaccination details, known illnesses or medical conditions.
- If desexed, the name and address of the vet and date of procedure.
- The animal's microchip number, date of procedure, any national registries the microchip information is stored on and name and address of the microchip implanter.
- For dogs, any control order on the dog.
- Any vet exemptions from microchipping or desexing.

## **Understand the desexing laws**

Dogs and cats born after the 1 July 2018 must be desexed before 6 months of age or within 28 days of purchasing. Breeders currently registered in Dogs and Cats Online do not have to have their breeding animals desexed. Other dogs and cats exempt from desexing are those registered and owned by Dogs SA, Feline Association of South Australia or Governing Council of the Cat Fancy members; working livestock dogs; registered Greyhound Racing SA dogs; or any with a current vet exemption.



# DOG<sup>AND</sup>CAT

BOARD.COM.AU

Manage registrations online  
**[dogsandcatsonline.com.au](https://dogsandcatsonline.com.au)**

For more information  
**[dogandcatboard.com.au](https://dogandcatboard.com.au)**



**Government of South Australia**  
Dog and Cat Management Board

