

This Code of Animal Welfare (for Pet Owners) sets Minimum Standards and explains the responsibilities of pet owners to help you understand how to provide a good and comfortable life for your pet.

Unless specified otherwise, the Minimum Standards apply to all pets.

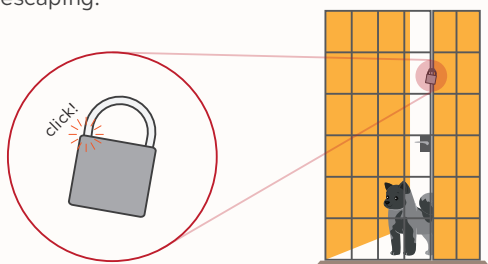
CODE OF ANIMAL WELFARE for Pet Owners

1 ACCOUNTABILITY OF PET OWNERS

- Do not leave your pet at any place without first making reasonable arrangements for its care.



- Secure your doors and gates to prevent your pet from escaping.



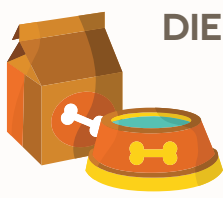
- If your pet is lost, you should make an effort to find it

- Make a missing pet report with the Police or AVA
- Put up 'missing pet' advertisements
- Get help from neighbours and animal welfare groups



3 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & CARE

DIET & FEEDING



- Provide your pet with a well-balanced and nutritious diet in adequate amounts at regular intervals.
- Clean drinking water should always be available.

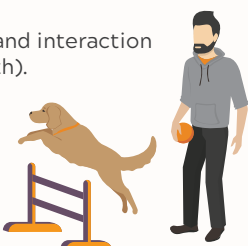
HEALTHCARE



- Observe your pet daily and seek veterinary attention promptly if you notice any signs of injury, illness or disease.

ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING

- Provide your pet with regular exercise and interaction (as appropriate to its species and health).
- Avoid using training methods and aids in a manner that may cause unnecessary pain or suffering.



HANDLING & TRANSPORT

- When handling and transporting your pet, do so in a manner that will not cause it injury or undue distress. It should be comfortable, safe and properly secured.



- If you are using a cage or carrier, you should ensure that your pet is able to comfortably stand, turn around and lie down.



- Your pet should not be transported in a car boot or any enclosed space with poor ventilation. It should also not be left unattended in vehicles.

- When travelling, make sure that your pet is not at risk of falling out. If carried in an open-top vehicle, care should be taken to ensure that it is not exposed to excessive rain, wind and sun.



CARE FOR PREGNANT & INFANT ANIMALS

- Veterinary attention should be sought for your pregnant pet if it is experiencing birthing difficulties.



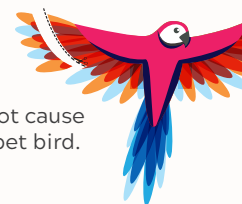
- After giving birth, a safe and comfortable environment should be provided for the mother and its offspring.

- Infant pets should be fully weaned before they are separated from their mother. Use milk replacers only if the mother does not produce enough milk or your pet is orphaned.



SPECIAL CARE (WING CLIPPING)

- Sometimes, the bird's feathers may be trimmed to restrict flight.
- Wing clipping, if done, should not cause undue stress and harm to your pet bird.



SPECIAL CARE (COLD CLIMATE DOG BREEDS)

- Cold climate dog breeds should be provided with adequate shade, fan ventilation or air-conditioning to keep cool. Do not subject them to physical exertion under the heat, and groom them regularly to prevent the accumulation of dead hair.



2 ANIMAL HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

- Provide a safe, well-ventilated, comfortable and clean environment.



- Do not expose your pet to excessive noise, sunlight, heat, humidity or strong winds.

CONFINEMENT

- Keep your pet in a safe area to prevent escape.
- Keep your pet in an area that is large enough for it to move around comfortably. The area should also be free of obstructions and sharp objects.
- Makesure that feed and water containers are placed in areas that cannot be contaminated by your pet's faeces.
- Pets that are not compatible should be housed separately, even if they are of the same species.



- BIRDS**
The cage should be large enough so that your pet's tail and outspread wings do not touch the sides of the cage. Perches should be appropriate in size, length and material for a comfortable grip. As some birds like parrots tend to chew the cage wiring, make sure the cages are made of materials that are safe and non-toxic.

- Provide nest boxes and hiding places for birds that are kept in aviaries. For birds that are kept in cages, a cloth should be draped over in the evening to let it rest and feel secure.

REST ZONE
PLAY ZONE

- DOGS AND CATS**
Provide your pet with separate areas for rest, feeding, exercise and exploration. It should also have access to a separate toilet area. Cats kept in cages should be let out for supervised exercise daily.

- RABBITS, GUINEA PIGS, GERBILS, HAMSTERS AND CHINCHILLAS**
Other than clean and dry bedding, your pet should also have separate areas for rest, feeding, exercise and exploration.

TETHERING

- Your pet may be tethered by a chain, leash, lead, halter or rope to restrict its range of movement.
- If your pet is tethered, the equipment used, the area and the way it is tethered should be safe and comfortable for it.
- Tethers should be fastened to a secure object that would not move, fall or hurt your pet. Choke chains should not be used for tethering.

- Tethers should not cause entanglement and strangulation. For dogs, the tether should be at least twice the length of the dog (nose to base of tail), and the anchor point should be low enough so that the dog can lie down comfortably.

- For birds, the tether should be long enough for it to move about comfortably.

