



Sweden

Identification and registration

Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is compulsory. Identification needs to be by microchip or tattoo and before the age of 4 months, or within 4 weeks of change of ownership. Once identified, the dog must be registered in a national database.

Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** by microchip or tattoo before the age of 4 months or within 4 weeks of change of ownership is mandatory. The cat's microchip number must be registered in the national database.

Dogs and cats must be registered in the Board of Agriculture's **national database**. Registration in the Swedish Kennel Club database (dogs and cats) or the Cat Club SVERAK's database is voluntary. The Swedish Kennel Club database is a member of EuroPetNet.

Microchipping of dogs and cats is not regulated.

Regulation of breeding

Dog breeders

All **dog breeders** are required to be registered and those breeding on a professional basis (three or more litters per year or keeping 10 or more dogs) must hold a permit. The competent authority assesses the applicant's ability to conduct the activities and the suitability of the premises prior to granting a permit.

Cat breeders

All **cat breeders** are required to be registered and those breeding on a professional basis (three or more litters per year or keeping 10 or more cats) must hold a permit. The competent authority assesses the applicant's ability to conduct the activities and the suitability of the premises prior to granting a permit.

A list of dog and cat breeders with permits is recorded on a national **database**.

Inspections are the responsibility of the County Administrative Boards and are legally required to take place prior to granting a permit.

There is legislation prohibiting the breeding of dogs and cats which have **genetic conditions** such as inherited diseases, inherited disabilities or behavioural disorders in the form of exaggerated fear responses or aggressive behaviour in everyday situations.

There is a compulsory **code of practice** for dog or cat breeders which covers facilities, inspections, cleaning, care and breeding practices. There are dog- and cat-specific provisions regarding facilities and environment, enrichment and more.

Sales and advertising

Dog and cat traders

The minimum age at which a **puppy** can be sold is 8 weeks and for a **kitten** is 12 weeks.

All dog and cat **traders** must be **registered**. Traders must have the training or other knowledge prescribed by the Swedish Board of Agriculture. If they sell three or more dog or cat litters per year, they must hold a licence.

Sales in **pet shops, markets** and **on the street** are forbidden.

Surgical operations to modify the appearance of dogs and cats or for other non-curative purposes (e.g. tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation, declawing) are prohibited, with no exemptions.

There is no specific regulation of **online advertising** of dogs and cats for sale.

Legislation: Identification and registration; Registration of breeders; Keeping dogs and cats; Animal Welfare Act Animal Welfare Ordinance (translation); Animal Welfare Ordinance