



## Denmark

### Identification and registration

#### Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is compulsory. Identification can be by microchip or tattoo and must be by 8 weeks of age. Once identified, the dog must be registered on the national database before 8 weeks of age.

#### Cats

**Cats** are not required to be identified or registered. Owners can voluntarily identify and register their cat in one of the two approved private databases.

There is one **national database** for dogs (Dansk Hunderegister) and two voluntary cat registers (Katteregister and Dansk-Katteregister). All three databases are linked to the **EU-wide database** EuroPetNet.

**Microchipping** is regulated insofar as only veterinarians and other people qualified to perform microchip insertion may carry out this procedure and the microchip number is controlled by the Danish Dog Register.

### Regulation of breeding

#### Dog breeders

**Dog breeders** with 3 or more breeding bitches, or more than 2 litters per year, must be registered and licensed with the State Veterinary Administration. To be licensed, a breeder must be compliant with the commercial trade and breeding of dogs in kennels and dog shelters legislation.

#### Cat breeders

**Cat breeders** are not required to be registered or licensed.

A list of registered dog breeders is held on a **database** held by the state veterinary administration, but there is no public database for cat breeders to be registered to. Private breeding clubs have member registrations.

**Inspections** are carried out prior to authorisation. Establishments are then subject to regular inspection by the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration.

There is no legislation preventing the **breeding** of dogs or cats which have genetic conditions such as inherited diseases or exaggerated conformations.

The animal welfare act dictates that all animals must be cared for with consideration to their physiological and behavioural needs according to scientifically recognised standards of care. There is a specific compulsory **code of practice** for dog breeders but not for cat breeders.

### Sales and advertising

#### Dog and cat traders

There is legislation on the minimum age at time of sale: 8 weeks for **puppies** and 12 weeks for **kittens**.

For dogs, sales in **pet shops** are allowed (but nonexistent), whereas sales in the **market** or **on the street** are banned. However, it is legal to purchase cats in **pet shops**, in **markets** or **on the street**.

All dog and **cat commercial traders** must be registered. Traders must include information on the number of animals in their care and on their species, they must also outline how they will ensure the welfare of the animal. Applications to register must be submitted to the regional veterinary administration at least 30 days before trading.

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

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