



## Poland

### Identification and registration

#### Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is not compulsory. Some regional municipalities sponsor microchipping, but this is the owner's choice. Registration is not compulsory, either, but some municipalities require that owners of dogs pay a fee to the authorities.

#### Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** is not compulsory. Some regional municipalities sponsor microchipping, but this is the owner's choice. Registration is not compulsory, either.

There is no **national central database** for registration of cats and dogs. Two databases, AID ([www.identyfikacja.pl](http://www.identyfikacja.pl)) and SAFE-ANIMAL, are members of the **EU-wide database** EuroPetNet.

**Microchipping** of dogs and cats is regulated insofar as only veterinarians can perform microchip insertion.

### Regulation of breeding

#### Dog breeders

**Breeders of pure-bred dogs** are required to be registered with a breeding association, while breeding of mix-breeds and cross-breeds is prohibited. However, this legislation is not strictly enforced as there are few restrictions on who can register as a breeding association.

#### Cat breeders

**Breeders of pure-bred cats** are required to be registered with a breeding association, while breeding of mix-breeds and cross-breeds is prohibited. However, this legislation is not strictly enforced as there are few restrictions on who can register as a breeding association.

There is no national **database** of dog and cat breeders.

There is no legal requirement for **inspections**, but the Animal Protection Act requires cooperation between the competent authorities and the Veterinary Service. In case of suspected violations, inspections are carried out by the latter, by NGOs, or by the local municipality.

There is no legislation specifically prohibiting the breeding of dogs and cats which have **genetic conditions**, but the Animal Protection Act prohibits applying cruel methods in animal breeding.

While breeding associations have their own rules, there is no compulsory **code of practice** for dog or cat breeders.

### Sales and advertising

#### Dog and cat traders

There is no legal minimum age at which a **puppy** or a **kitten** can be sold.

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

As only breeders can sell dogs and cats, it follows that **traders** (i.e. breeders) must be **registered** with a breeding association in order to sell animals. However, this legislation is not strictly enforced as there are few restrictions on who can register as a breeding association.

**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:** Animal Protection Act