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Pets

If you have a pet, you as a pet owner must follow a few rules.

In Switzerland, you must register/register the following animals:

- Dog
- Cattle, Pig, Sheep, Goat
- Chickens and other poultry species
- Horse, pony, donkey, mule, zebra
- Bees / apiaries
- Fish farms

Dog owner

Where do I have to register the dog?

Each dog must be marked and registered with a microchip . If you bring a dog from abroad, it must be registered by the veterinarian in Switzerland.

Contact the **municipality of residence** and tell them that you keep a dog. The municipality of residence registers you as a dog owner and sends you an annual invoice for keeping the dog.

If you move, report a change of address to the municipal office within 10 days.

What are the rules for dogs?

In most municipalities of residence, dogs must **be kept on a leash** . Check with the municipality of residence to find out what rules apply.

As an owner, you are obliged to remove dog excrement on streets, squares, sidewalks, in public facilities and in agricultural crops. The municipality of residence provides plastic bags free of charge for this purpose and [ROBIDOG](#) (🗑️ [Bucket for dog excrement disposal](#)) dog waste containers are available everywhere for disposal.

Insurance

Personal liability insurance is **mandatory** for dog owners in the canton of St.Gallen.

Pets in a rented apartment

Not every landlord allows larger pets such as dogs or cats. It may be that there is a pet ban in the rental agreement.

The landlord **can terminate the lease** if you do not comply with the pet ban or if you get a pet without his or her permission.

If nothing is mentioned in the rental agreement for keeping pets, then this is generally allowed.

An exception are animals with a particular disturbance or hazard potential such as:

- Animals in large numbers
- Snake
- Spider
- Other exotic animal species

In this case, you will need the consent of the landlord. In addition, the import and keeping of many exotic animal species is not permitted for **species protection reasons**.

> When **viewing the new apartment**, be sure to ask if pets are allowed.

Contact points

Find the right contact point, advice or authority in your area: [Contact points](#)

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