

EXERCISE FOR DOGS

The Animal Welfare Act and implementing regulations specify that research facilities must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan to provide dogs with the opportunity for exercise. The following represents a plan to comply with this requirement:

1. Dogs housed individually will be provided with a minimum of two times the required floor space (calculated by determining the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog in inches from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail plus six inches; the product divided by 144 equals the required floor space in square feet).
2. Dogs housed in compatible groups will be provided in total at least 100 percent of the required space for each dog if maintained separately.

The following situations represent justifiable exceptions:

- a. Dogs may be housed individually in the minimum required floor space if they are provided access to a run or open area meeting specifications in 1. above for a minimum of 30 minutes daily, 5 days per week. This activity must be documented.
- b. Newly received dogs in quarantine may be housed individually in the minimum required floor space for up to 14 days without access to run or open area. This practice will minimize the opportunity for new animals coming into contact with other dogs until the new dogs' health status is established and any vaccinations, deworming, or other treatments are completed.
- c. Individual dogs may be exempted from the exercise requirement by the attending veterinarian for reasons relating to health or well being of the animal. Examples could include clinical illness, post-surgical recovery, collection of biological specimens such as urine or feces for health evaluations, or chronic health conditions where exercise might exacerbate the condition.
- d. An animal may be exempted from the exercise requirements for scientific reasons if justified in the research proposal and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Records of any exceptions/exemptions shall be maintained and be made available for review by the attending veterinarian, the IACUC, and/or USDA officials upon request.

**If dog nose tip
to tail base is:**

**Minimum cage
size per dog**

**It needs exercise
release unless pen size is:**

12 in.	2.2 sq. ft.	4.4 sq. ft.
15 in.	3.1 sq. ft.	6.2 sq. ft.
18 in.	4.0 sq. ft.	8.0 sq. ft.
19 in.	4.3 sq. ft.	8.6 sq. ft.
20 in.	4.7 sq. ft.	9.4 sq. ft.
21 in.	5.1 sq. ft.	10.2 sq. ft.
22 in.	5.4 sq. ft.	10.8 sq. ft.
23 in.	5.8 sq. ft.	11.6 sq. ft.
24 in.	6.2 sq. ft.	12.4 sq. ft.
25 in.	6.7 sq. ft.	13.4 sq. ft.
26 in.	7.1 sq. ft.	14.2 sq. ft.
27 in.	7.6 sq. ft.	15.2 sq. ft.
28 in.	8.0 sq. ft.	16.0 sq. ft.
29 in.	8.5 sq. ft.	17.0 sq. ft.
30 in.	9.0 sq. ft.	17.8 sq. ft.
31 in.	9.5 sq. ft.	19.0 sq. ft.
32 in.	10.0 sq. ft.	20.0 sq. ft.
33 in.	10.6 sq. ft.	21.2 sq. ft.
34 in.	11.1 sq. ft.	22.2 sq. ft.
35 in.	11.7 sq. ft.	23.4 sq. ft.
36 in.	12.3 sq. ft.	24.6 sq. ft.
37 in.	12.8 sq. ft.	25.6 sq. ft.
38 in.	13.4 sq. ft.	26.8 sq. ft.
39 in.	14.1 sq. ft.	28.2 sq. ft.
40 in.	14.7 sq. ft.	29.4 sq. ft.
41 in.	15.3 sq. ft.	30.6 sq. ft.
42 in.	16.0 sq. ft.	32.0 sq. ft.
43 in.	16.7 sq. ft.	33.4 sq. ft.
44 in.	17.4 sq. ft.	34.8 sq. ft.
45 in.	18.1 sq. ft.	36.2 sq. ft.
46 in.	18.8 sq. ft.	37.6 sq. ft.