

# Dangerous Dog Act & Regulations in New South Wales



1300 THE DOG

1300 843 364

## Can I Breed my Pit Bull Terrier in NSW?

All restricted dog breeds are required to be sterilised. If you have a restricted breed dog, it is compulsory that you notify your local council. Selling, buying or advertising to sell a restricted dog breed is also an offence.

## [Companion Animals Regulation 2008 \(NSW\)](#)

This Regulation demands that all owners of **declared dangerous dogs**, **declared menacing dogs** and **restricted dog breeds** must comply with legislation requirements or face a council-imposed fine for each offence. Below are a few facts to act as a guide for a dog owner in NSW if they have a restricted dog breed or a declared dangerous dog.

## What is a Dangerous Dog in NSW?

Any dog can be dangerous. [The Companion Animals Act 1998 No 87 \(NSW\)](#) defines 3 types of dogs:

- Declared Dangerous Dogs
- Declared Menacing Dogs
- Restricted Dogs

## How are Dogs Declared Dangerous or Menacing in NSW?

Any breed of dog can be declared dangerous if they:

- Attacked or killed a person or animal (other than vermin).
- The dog has repeatedly shown a tendency to attack.
- The dog attacks or chases a person or animal even without causing an injury.
- The dog is kept or used for the purposes of hunting.

## What Breeds are Restricted in NSW?

- Dogo Argentino
- Fila Brasileiro
- Japanese Tosa
- American Pit Bull Terrier
- Pit Bull Terrier

This includes banned breeds by the [Customs Act 1901 of the Commonwealth](#). Your local council in New South Wales can assist.

## How Do I Identify a Dangerous Dog in NSW?

The main identifier of a dangerous dog is the [special collar](#) that they are required to wear. These collars have red and yellow diagonal stripe where one of these colours must be reflective so as to be visible in low light. The **width** of the collar varies depending on the weight of the dog. Other than that, some of the requirements of an owner will also help identify a dangerous dog.



Dangerous Dog Collar

## Dangerous Dog Laws in New South Wales

[Companion Animals Act 1998](#) and [Companion Animals Regulation 2008](#)

## [Dangerous Dog Sign \(NSW\)](#)

If you own a declared dangerous, menacing or restricted dog, you must comply with these requirements or face large fines.

• **Part 4, Clause 26 of the Regulation** says:

(1) [Signs](#) must be situated so that the words "Warning Dangerous Dog" are legible to any person immediately before entering the property by way of any gate, door or other entry point.

(2) Each sign must:

- (a) be no smaller than 40 cm x 40 cm, and
- (b) be made of durable materials, and
- (c) show the words "Warning Dangerous Dog"

in letters that are, in any case, **at least** 50 mm high and 10 mm wide.



Dangerous Dog Sign  
NSW Click Here...



Dangerous Dog Collar  
NSW Click Here...

## [Dangerous Dog Collar \(NSW\)](#)

- **Clause 27 (Distinctive collars for dangerous, menacing or restricted dogs) of the Regulation** states:

- (a) the [collar](#) should consist of red stripes alternatively spaced with yellow stripes, each stripe being 25 mm wide and set diagonal to the rim of the collar at an angle of 45 degrees, and
- (b) all of the stripes of at least 1 of the 2 colours are sufficiently reflective so as to be visible in low light, and
- (c) it is made of durable materials, and
- (d) it is able to be securely fastened, and
- (e) it has a device or other facility that enables it to be attached to a leash, and
- (f) it has a **minimum width** of:

- (i) 25 mm for a dog weighing less than 20 kg, or
- (ii) 40 mm for a dog weighing between 20 kg & 40 kg, or
- (iii) 50 mm for a dog weighing more than 40 kg.

## CONTACT US

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[helpdesk@thedogline.com.au](mailto:helpdesk@thedogline.com.au)

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## National Direct Phone Numbers:

NSW - (02) 8203 2742

VIC - (03) 9020 2115

QLD - (07) 3106 0685

WA - (08) 9248 7310

TAS - (03) 6108 2337

SA - (08) 8901 7629

NT - 1300 843 364

## Muzzle for Dangerous Dog NSW

- Part 3, Division 1, Section 15 of Companion Animals Act 1998 (NSW) states that:

(1) A dog to which this section applies must at all times have a **muzzle** securely fixed on its mouth in such a manner as will prevent it from biting any person or animal, except when the dog is:

(a) in or on any property or vehicle of which the owner of the dog is an occupier or where the dog is ordinarily kept, or

(b) under the effective control of some competent person and being exhibited for show purposes or participating in an obedience trial.



**Muzzle for Dangerous Dogs in NSW. Click Here...**



**Dangerous Dog Muzzle NSW. Click Here...**



**Dangerous Dog Muzzle NSW. Click Here...**

## Enclosures for Dangerous Dogs in NSW

- Part 4, Clause 24, Section 2 of Companion Animals Regulation 2008 (NSW) states that:

(a) The enclosure must be fully enclosed, constructed and maintained in such a way so that the dog is not able to dig or otherwise escape under, over or through the enclosure.

(e) have a **minimum height** of 1.8 m and a **minimum width** of 1.8 m, and

(f) have an area of not less than 10 square metres for each dangerous or restricted dog kept on the property, and  
(g) have walls that are fixed to the floor and constructed to be no more than 50 mm from the floor, and

(h) have walls, a fixed covering and a gate that are constructed of:

- (i) brick, timber, iron or similar solid materials

### **(3) Any gate to the enclosure must:**

(a) contain a self-closing and self-latching mechanism that enables the enclosure to be securely locked when the dog is in the enclosure,

(b) be kept locked when the dog is in the enclosure, and

(c) display the warning sign referred to in clause 26.

### **(4) Mesh used in the construction of an enclosure must be:**

(a) chain mesh manufactured from **at least** 3.15 mm wire to form a **maximum** mesh spacing of 50 mm, or

(b) weld mesh manufactured from **at least** 4 mm wide with a **maximum** mesh spacing of 50 mm.

## **Dangerous Dogs Products**

[www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dangerous-dog-collar](http://www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dangerous-dog-collar)  
[www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dangerous-dog-sign-nsw](http://www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dangerous-dog-sign-nsw)  
[www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dog-muzzle-plastic-cage](http://www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dog-muzzle-plastic-cage)

## **More from The Dog Line**

[Dog Fence](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-fences)  
[Bark Collars](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electronic-bark-collars)  
[Dog Training Collars](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-training-collars)  
[muzzle-plastic-cage](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-training-collars)

## **Where can I get more information?**

Get the complete information of the Dog Laws in your local government here:  
<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/1998/87/part3/div1/section12>  
<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2008/374/full>  
[www.thedogline.com.au/dangerous-dogs/dangerous-dog-act-in-nsw-new-south-wales](http://www.thedogline.com.au/dangerous-dogs/dangerous-dog-act-in-nsw-new-south-wales)

## **Disclaimer**

At the time of printing, the information in this sheet is up to date. Please refer to the relevant legislation in your own state for clarification. Every care was taken to ensure this information is as accurate as possible, it is a guide and a courtesy offered by The Dog Line. However, we can take no responsibility for its interpretation and implementation by your local shire and animal control departments.

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## **CONTACT US**

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