

# Dangerous Dog Act & Regulations in Victoria



1 300 THE DOG

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

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 offense.

## Domestic Animals Regulations 2015 (VIC)

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

## What is a Dangerous Dog in Victoria?

Any dog can be dangerous. Domestic Animals Act 1994 (VIC) defines 3 types of dogs:

- **Dangerous Dog**
- **Menacing Dog**
- **Restricted Dog Breeds**

## How are Dogs Declared Dangerous in VIC?

Any breed of dog can be declared dangerous if they:

- Cause injury or damage by an attack on a person, animal and vehicle.
- The dog has repeatedly shown a tendency to attack.
- The dog attacks or chases a person, animal and vehicle even without causing an injury or damage.

## What Breeds are Restricted in Victoria?

- Dogo Argentino
- Fila Brasileiro
- Japanese Tosa
- American Pit Bull Terrier
- Pit Bull Terrier
- Perro de Pesa Canario

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

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** and at least one of the two colours reflects light in the dark. 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 Special Collar

## Dangerous Dog Laws in Victoria

### Domestic Animals Act 1994 and Domestic Animals Regulations 2015

### Dangerous Dog Warning Sign in VIC

- **Part 2, REG 8 (Dangerous dog warning sign), Section 1 of the Regulation states that:**

A **warning sign** that complies with the Regulation is one that

- (a) is in the shape of a square with sides that are 40 cm in length; and
- (b) is made of a durable metal; and
- (c) is similar to the sign illustrated, coloured and set out in Schedule 2; and
- (d) contains at least one colour that reflects light in the dark.

- **REG 10 (Warning sign for restricted breed dog), Section 1 of the Regulation states that:**

A **warning sign** that complies with the Regulation is one that

- (a) is in the shape of a rectangle with a height of 10 cm and a width of 30 cm; and
- (b) is made of durable material; and
- (c) is similar to the sign illustrated, coloured and set out in Schedule 3; and
- (d) contains at least one colour that reflects light in the dark.



Dangerous Dog Warning Sign (VIC)  
[Click here...](#)



Restricted Breed Dog Warning Sign (VIC)  
[Click here...](#)

### Collars for Dangerous Dogs in VIC

- **Part 2, REG 9 (Collars for dangerous dogs and restricted breed dogs), Section 1 states that:**

For the purposes of sections 40 and 41HA of the Act, a **collar** is of the prescribed kind if—

- (a) it consists of red stripes alternately spaced with yellow stripes each being of a width of not less than 20 mm and not more than 30 mm and set diagonal to the rim of the collar;
- (b) at least one of the two colours reflects light in the dark;
- (c) it is made of durable materials; and
- (d) it is able to be securely fastened; and
- (e) it has a facility to attach a leash; and
- (f) it has a **minimum width** of—

- (i) 25 mm for a dog weighing not more than 40 kg; or
- (ii) 50 mm for a dog weighing more than 40 kg.

## CONTACT US

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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

## Dangerous Dogs Muzzle (VIC)

- Part 3, Section 41 (Restraint of dangerous dogs off the owner's premises), subsection 1 of the Act states that:

If a dangerous dog is outside the premises of its owner and is not—

- (a) **muzzled** in a manner which is sufficient to prevent it causing injury by biting; and
- (b) under the effective control of some person by means of a chain, cord or leash—the owner of that dangerous dog and any person for the time being in charge of the dog are guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty of not more than 40 penalty units.



[Muzzle for Dangerous Dogs in VIC. Click Here...](#)



[Dangerous Dog Muzzle VIC. Click here...](#)



[Dangerous Dog Muzzle VIC. Click here...](#)

## Enclosures for Dangerous Dogs in VIC

- Part 2, REG 7 (Enclosures for dangerous dogs & restricted breed dogs), Section 1 states that:

An enclosure complies with the Regulations if it—

- (a) has a **minimum** height and width of 1.8 m; and
  - (b) has a **minimum** area of 10 square metres for every such dog kept at the owner's premises; and
  - (c) provides a weatherproof sleeping area sufficient for all dogs in the enclosure.
- (2) the enclosure must—
- (a) be fully enclosed; and
  - (b) have walls that are—
    - (i) fixed to the floor; and
    - (ii) constructed to be no more than 50 mm from the floor;
  - (c) have walls, a roof and a gate that are constructed of—
    - (i) brick, timber, iron or similar solid materials; or
    - (ii) mesh that complies with subregulation (4); or
    - (iii) any combination of those materials referred to in subparagraphs (i) and (ii); and
  - (d) have a floor that is—
    - (i) constructed of concrete; and
    - (ii) graded to fall to a drain for the removal of effluent;
  - (e) have a gate that—
    - (i) has a lock that enables the enclosure to be securely locked when the dog is in the enclosure; and
    - (ii) is kept locked when the dog is in the enclosure.

## 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-vic](http://www.thedogline.com.au/buy/dangerous-dog-sign-vic)

[www.thedogline.com.au/buy/restricted-dog-sign-vic](http://www.thedogline.com.au/buy/restricted-dog-sign-vic)

[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

[www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-fences](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-fences)

### Bark Collars

[www.thedogline.com.au/electronic-bark-collars](http://www.thedogline.com.au/electronic-bark-collars)

### Dog Training Collars

[www.thedogline.com.au/electric-dog-training-collars](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:

[www.thedogline.com.au/dangerous-dogs/dangerous-dog-act-in-vic-victoria](http://www.thedogline.com.au/dangerous-dogs/dangerous-dog-act-in-vic-victoria)

[http://www5.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol\\_act/daa1994163/](http://www5.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_act/daa1994163/)

[http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol\\_reg/dar2015272/](http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_reg/dar2015272/)

## 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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