



DOG, CAT... HOUSE

A WILD HOW-TO GUIDE TO KEEPING PETS IN RENTAL APARTMENTS

WBM.

Wohnungsbaugesellschaft
Berlin-Mitte mbH



GOOD PAGES FOR BETTER LIVING

When you're a large housing association, this can also have special advantages.

For example, over the years, together with our tenants and residents, a virtually inexhaustible collection of good tips and important advice on the topic of residential living has been compiled. And now we would like to pass this information on to you in a practical how-to series. This should help you to avoid problems, save money and maintain or improve the living conditions and quality of life in your home.

WBM.

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THERE'S A PET IN ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE HOUSEHOLDS

The love that Germans have for their pets is unwavering. Berliners are no exception. Dogs, cats and other animals live in approx. one out of every three households. But what is allowed? Which animals are welcome and which animals simply don't belong in a rental apartment?

SMALL ANIMALS ARE (ALMOST) ALWAYS WELCOME

Nearly all small animals can move into an apartment with you without the consent of the landlord. This includes hamsters, parakeets, guinea pigs and cats - only in acceptable numbers, though.



AS ANIMAL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS SEE IT, CERTAIN ANIMAL SPECIES – WHETHER BIG OR SMALL - ARE NOT SUITED TO BEING KEPT INDOORS.

The keeping of reptiles such as: **all kinds of snakes (constrictors and poisonous snakes), toads and frogs, newts and lizards, monitor lizards, agamas, geckos** is therefore not permitted.

These species require a special habitat, which generally can't be adequately replicated in indoor living spaces.

REGISTER YOUR BEST FRIEND

Some people love them, other people find them a nuisance. Dogs can be a problem, especially in the city. For quite some time now, man's best friend has been causing frayed tempers in Berlin. There are more and more complaints about stinking piles of dog excrement and loud barking. How can you do things right with your dog?

No matter how large or small Rover is, in order to keep a four-legged friend in your apartment you'll need to get the consent of your landlord.

This consent is subject to a weighing up of the respective interests and is decided on an individual basis.

Tax registration and indemnity insurance are compulsory and, since 1 January 2010, all dogs kept in Berlin must also be fitted with an identification microchip.

DON'T LET YOUR DOG GO TO THE DOGS.

Berlin is the undisputed dog capital. There are around 145,000 dogs among 3.4 million inhabitants. Approx. 20,000 of these dogs are "illegal stowaways".

Don't leave your dog alone all day. He too can feel lonely, begin to howl and the next thing you know, you'll have problems with your neighbours.

Besides, one dog isn't the same as the next. Different breeds need different living conditions, which can't be ensured in a building with lots of other families. Unfortunately many people don't always think of this. And the tolerance for dogs and dog owners is waning.



SOME BREEDS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

In Berlin, anyone who wants to have a dog can have one. This also applies for the tenants and residents of WBM. However, there are a few exceptions when it comes to dog breeds. Fighting dogs, sheepdogs and other livestock dogs are not allowed in the buildings and residential complexes of WBM. The Law on the Handling and Control of Dogs in Berlin enacted in September 2004 covers the following fighting dogs:

Livestock dogs are highly intelligent and need to be kept busy with appropriate tasks. Without this they become frustrated and tend to be aggressive. In the interest of all tenants, it is not permitted to keep these dog breeds in apartments. There is a general ban for these dogs in the buildings and open spaces – such as courtyards, front gardens and playgrounds.

NOT ALLOWED! FIGHTING DOGS *

- Pit Bull
- American Staffordshire Terrier
- Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- Argentine Dogo
- Dogue de Bordeaux (French Mastiff)
- Fila Brasileiro (Brazilian Mastiff)
- Spanish Mastiff
- Tosa Inu
- Bull Mastiff
- Mastiff
- Mastino Napoletano
- Bull Terrier
- Rhodesian Ridgeback

SHEEP DOGS AND OTHER LIVESTOCK DOGS *

- Akbash Dog
- Kangal Dog
- Anatolian Shepherd Dog
- Caucasian Shepherd Dog
- Polish Tatra Sheepdog
- Podhalanski
- Polish Lowland Sheepdog
- Kuvasz
- Komondor

* Breeds crossed with the above breeds are also not allowed.





GIVE YOUR DOG A MUZZLE AND A LEASH.

When it is in the building, your dog must be on a leash, even if it is certain not to bite. When walking your dog, always keep the safety of other neighbours in mind. If necessary, your dog must wear a muzzle, since those who are afraid of dogs are also not keen on being sniffed. If the little rascal needs to get out and run around from time to time, take him to one of the nine dog parks in Berlin.

PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG!

Every day the streets are fouled with 40 tons of dog excrement. There's hardly anyone who hasn't been a victim of this sort of landmine. According to the Dog Ordinance, every dog owner is responsible for cleaning up after his four-legged friend. Dog owners who don't take care of their dog's "business" face a fine. After all, it is considered an administrative offence if the dog does his business on the sidewalk, in front gardens or in playgrounds. And the assumption that the removal of dog excrement has already been paid for with the dog tax is completely mistaken.



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