

Dog Shelter Requirements



Every dog is different. Some love being outside, while others would rather curl up indoors. Just like people, dogs handle hot and cold weather differently. If your dog spends time outdoors, it's your job to make sure they have safe, comfortable shelter.

Whenever your dog is housed outdoors, they must have access to weatherproof shelter of adequate size. The shelter must have a roof, three sides, a doorway and a solid, level floor.

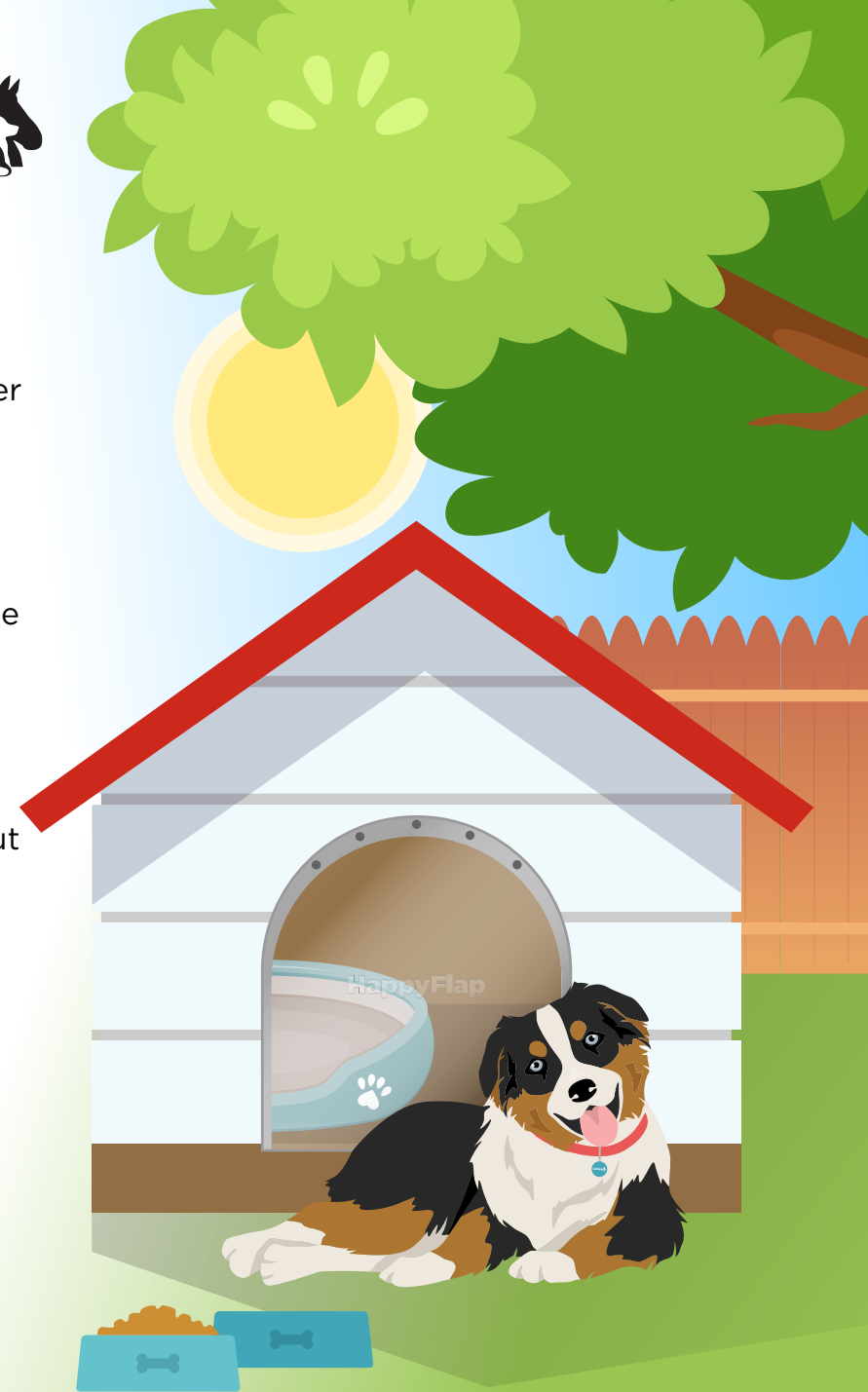
Dogs need protection from heat, rain, snow and sleet. It's best to place the shelter in adequate shade, and the opening should not face the sun.

The shelter should have flooring or bedding. The dog should be kept out of the mud and off hot concrete, should be large enough so the dog can stand up fully, turn around easily, and sit or lie down comfortably.

Is there proper ventilation? Shelters should allow for air movement. While full-coverage flaps keep rain out, they can drastically increase temperatures in the summer.

Water requirements: Dogs must have access to clean, fresh water at all times.

Feeding requirements: Dogs must be provided sufficient food daily to maintain proper body weight and good general health.



To report inadequate housing or suspected animal cruelty or neglect in your neighborhood, please call San Diego Humane Society's Humane Law Enforcement at **619-299-7012 (press 1)**. For more information, visit sdhumane.org/humanelaw.