

Microchipping

Even if your dog is not imported and you do not plan to take it abroad, it must still be microchipped by a trained professional.

Your contact details will be stored on a database against your dog's microchip number so it can be returned to you if it is lost or stolen. You are responsible for keeping this information up-to-date. You can do so by contacting the database company your dog is registered with. If you fail to ensure that your dog is microchipped you could be fined £500



Things to Remember

Here are some tips to remember when you are thinking of getting a puppy:

- view the puppy with its mother and litter mates where it was bred and be suspicious if the seller will not let you do this;
- get as much information as you can about where the puppy has come from and beware if the seller is outside the UK;
- ask to see vaccinations documentation – the veterinary practice details should be on this paperwork;
- if you suspect the puppy has been imported, remember the criteria of the 'Pet Travel Scheme';
- never agree to have the puppy delivered to you or to meet the seller in a place away from where the puppy was bred – be suspicious if the seller suggests this;
- never pay for the puppy in advance;
- what would appear to be a 'bargain' price for a puppy may prove to be very expensive – the puppy may become ill shortly after purchase or may have to be put into quarantine at your expense;
- illegally importing puppies is a crime. You can anonymously report any suspicions you may have to **Crimestoppers** on **0800 555 111**.



Getting a Puppy



Taking your pet abroad

You can no longer use a pet passport issued in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) for travel to an EU country or Northern Ireland.

When travelling to an EU country or Northern Ireland, your pet or assistance dog needs:

- a microchip
- a valid rabies vaccination
- an animal health certificate unless you have a pet passport issued in an EU country or Northern Ireland
- tapeworm treatment for dogs if you're travelling directly to Finland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway or Malta

Make sure to always check the rules of the country you're travelling to for any additional restrictions or requirements before you travel. You may be asked to show proof of any of the above upon entry to the EU or Northern Island, so make sure you carry all documentation with you on your trip.



Travelling to Great Britain with your pet

An EU pet passport issued in a member state or Northern Ireland is still valid to enter GB, but before they enter, all pets must be:

- microchipped
- vaccinated against rabies (your vet needs proof that your pet's at least 12 weeks old before vaccinating them and will need to wait 21 days after the primary vaccination before travel).
- There are different requirements for pets entering from certain third countries such as a rabies test. In some cases pets will need an approved treatment for tape worm between 120 hrs - 24 hrs before entering GB.

Your pet must have one of the following documents when entering or returning to GB:

- an EU pet passport issued in the EU (or in GB if issued before 1 January 2021), or a pet passport from another Part 1 listed third country
- the animal health certificate (AHC) issued in GB used to travel to the EU – which you can use to re-enter GB for up to 4 months after it was issued
- a GB pet health certificate (for travel into GB only)

Your pet will not need this documentation if it's entering GB from Northern Ireland, the Channel

Islands or the Isle of Man.

If you are a British citizen who lives in the EU and plans to travel with your pet using a UK-issued pet passport, you should speak to your vet. They'll help to ensure you're compliant with EU Pet Travel Regulations.

If you are considering purchasing a puppy that you suspect may have been imported, be sure that the import complied with the above criteria, otherwise your new puppy will have to spend time in quarantine at your expense. This can cost more than £1000.

