

## how to buy the right kennel

Kennels, whether they are plastic or wire, are great products to help train your pet, travel safely by car or by air, and offer your pet a place of their own in your home. However, to enjoy these benefits, it is essential that you choose the right kennel!

It is important to note that the kennel is **NOT** to be used as a form of punishment or as a long-term pet sitter. If your pet has never been kept in a kennel, specific training is necessary for your pet's safety. See our behavior advice articles for tips on kennel training and housebreaking. When choosing a kennel, here are the questions you should ask:

### What will the kennel be used for?

- Plastic Kennels – Ideal for travel by car or by air. Also good for in-house kennel training and giving your pet a “den” of their very own.
- Wire Kennels – Best for in-house kennel training. Also good for travel by car.

### What size should I buy?

- To determine the right size kennel, measure your dog from the top of his head to the floor, and from the tip of his nose to the base of his tail.
- The height of the kennel should be 1-2 inches taller than your pet when standing and there should only be enough room for your pet to **stand up, turn around and lie down**.
- **WARNINGS:**
  - If the kennel is too small, your pet won't be comfortable.
  - If the kennel is too large, training may not be effective as your pet will go to the bathroom on one side and sleep on the other. In travel, if the kennel is too large, it doesn't keep your pet as safe as a right-sized kennel.
- We make **plastic kennels** for any size pet, from a small puppy to a German Shepherd.
- Our **wire kennels** have 'GROW-WITH-ME' dividers that allow you to section off the kennel and make it larger as your pet grows up. Very handy when dealing with puppy training!



### What look do I want in my home? What features will make my life easier and my pet's life better? Do I want plastic or wire?

- **Plastic Kennels:**
  - We offer a large selection of styles and colors to choose from; some fancy, some basic.
  - Some have doors that are dial latches, while others have squeeze latches.
  - Upper-end models are structurally heavier and have more features than the economy-priced models.
  - Some assemble with quick-snap or dial latches. Others use plastic wing nuts and metal bolts.
  - All have a moat around the perimeter of the floor to drain away liquids as needed.
  - Kennel pads are available to create a cozy place for a nap, but be sure to only use these after your pet is housebroken!
  - Suggested products: Vari kennel<sup>®</sup>, Kennel Cab<sup>®</sup>.
- **Wire Kennels:**
  - Built with heavy gauge wire for extra security.
  - Finishes include a durable hammertone or black epoxy-coated finish.
  - One door and two door options are available.
  - Some have an access door to the floor pan for cleaning, as well as additional doors solely for feeding.
  - Offer complete visibility for the owner and the pet.
  - Fold down quickly to a thin configuration for convenient storage.
  - Kennel pads are available to create a cozy place for a nap, but be sure to only use these after your pet is housebroken!
  - Suggested products: Deluxe Edition Wire<sup>®</sup>, Pethome Training<sup>™</sup>.

