



BELGIUM IMPORT RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

Attention: This information is to be used as general guidelines and may not be updated to meet the current requirements. Before you travel, be sure to contact the appropriate authorities for your destination country.

The first two steps to any successful pet relocation involve the purchase of your pet's travel crate and properly acclimating your pet to its new travel environment. The final 3 pages of this document detail the importance of these steps and provide a guiding hand as to what type of travel crate to purchase and how to go about crate training your pet.

Prepare → Initial Crucial Steps to Take Prior to Starting the Process

- Crate Training** is one of the most crucial steps in this process.
- USDA Accreditation** - the Vet performing the below mentioned tasks must be accredited by the USDA. If they are not, then we will work with you on finding another accredited Veterinarian.
- Date and Time** it is best to always use international date formatting **dd/mm/yyyy**, as well as a 24 hour time formatting on all documents.
- Blue Ink** it is best for all original documentation to be filled out and signed in **blue ink**.
- Micro Chip Numbers** must be read from the chip in the animal and not from other paper work.
Scan the chip each time the number needs to be recorded to ensure the correct number is listed.

Customs Documentation → In order for us to successfully clear customs we will need the following documents supplied prior to the animal's arrival:

- Copy of Pet Owner's Passport**
- Copy of Pet Owner's Visa (if available)**
- Note from Pet Owner's Employer on Employer's Company Letterhead**

Step 1 → Microchip: Each Pet shall be identified by means of a microchip. No other form of identification is acceptable. The microchip used should comply with ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO standard 11785- otherwise the pet will need to be sent with it's own scanner attached to the top of the crate.

- The microchip implantation **MUST BE DONE BEFORE** the rabies vaccination.
- Scan** the microchip **BEFORE** placing it in the animal to be sure the chip is working prior to implantation.
- Record** the microchip number and implantation date



Step 2 → Rabies Vaccination & Certificate: Rabies Vaccinations **MUST** be at least 4 weeks old from the date of departure. All pets must have an original Rabies Certificate and this certificate must state the **microchip number, the date of inoculation, and the expiration date** of the particular vaccination you obtain.

- Scan** the microchip **BEFORE** administering the rabies vaccine.
- Administer** the Rabies Vaccine, can be a 1, 2, or 3 year vaccine.
- Record** the Microchip's number on the Rabies Vaccine Certificate, as well as the Manufacturer's Name, Batch Number, & Vaccine Expiration Date.
- It is also **MANDATORY** that your pet be up-to-date on the following vaccinations:
 - Dogs:** Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvo, Leptospirosis, (DHLPP)
 - Cats:** Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia (FVRCP)

Step 3 → Import Permit: An import authorization form needs to be filled out by the importer (this form can be found on the Belgium Embassy website). After the Belgian Veterinarian Services in Brussels examine the request from the importer, they will forward him/her an Import Authorization.

Step 4 → EU Vet Health Certificate (Form EC#: 998) – (Form provided to you by PetRelocation.com) – This is the standard Health Certificate to be filled out by your accredited Veterinarian. **Although this certificate is technically valid for 4 months, it is recommended to be completed and endorsed by the USDA within 10 days of travel to avoid any customs issues upon arrival.**

** The following page illustrates a standard EU Vet Health Certificate as well as instructions on how to properly complete each section. Layouts of the EU Vet Health Certificate may vary for certain countries.*



Sample EU Vet Health Certificate 998 (page one)

31.12.2004 [EU] Official Journal of the European Union L 358/13

ANNEX
Model of health certificate for the non-commercial movement from third countries of pet animals of the domestic species
(dogs, cats and ferrets), as provided for in Article 10(1) of Regulation (EC) No 998/2004

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE
for domestic dogs, cats and ferrets entering the European Community for non-commercial movements
(Regulation (EC) No 998/2004)**

COUNTRY OF DISPATCH OF THE ANIMAL: _____

Serial number of the certificate: _____

I. Owner/responsible person accompanying the animal

First name: _____ Surname: _____
 Address: _____
 Postcode: _____ City: _____
 Country: _____ Telephone: _____

II. Description of the animal

Species: _____ Breed: _____ Sex: _____
 Date of birth: _____ (Give year and age)

III. Identification of the animal

Microchip number: _____
 Location of microchip: _____ Date of microchipping: _____
 Tattoo number: _____ Date of tattooing: _____

IV. Vaccination against rabies

Manufacturer and name of vaccine: _____
 Batch number: _____ Vaccination date: _____ Valid until: _____

V. Rabies serological test (when required)

I have seen an official record of the result of a serological test for the animal, carried out on a sample taken on 08/08/2004 and tested in an EU-approved laboratory, which states that the rabies neutralising antibody titre was equal to or greater than 0.1 IU/ml

COUNTRY OF DISPATCH OF THE ANIMAL: Completed by your veterinarian.

SERIAL NUMBER OF THE CERTIFICATE: Completed by the Government Veterinarian Authority (USDA when departing from the United States).

[BOX I] OWNER/RESPONSIBLE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE ANIMAL: Completed by your veterinarian using the PET OWNER'S information.

[BOX II] DESCRIPTION OF THE ANIMAL: Completed by your veterinarian.

[BOX III] IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANIMAL: Completed by your veterinarian. Must be accompanied by a valid microchip record.

[BOX IV] VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES: Completed by your veterinarian. Must be accompanied by a valid rabies certificate.

[BOX V] RABIES SEROLOGICAL TEST (when required): Only required if entering the UK, Sweden, Norway, or Finland. Completed by your veterinarian when applicable.

Sample EU Vet Health Certificate (page two)

1.12.2004 [EU] Official Journal of the European Union L 322/2004

Official veterinarian or veterinarian authorized by the competent authority (if, in the latter case, the competent authority must endorse the certificate)

First name: _____ Surname: _____
 Address: _____ Signature, date and stamp: _____
 Postcode: _____
 City: _____
 Country: _____
 Telephone: _____

(*) Only when applicable

Endorsement by the competent authority (not necessary when the certificate is signed by an official veterinarian)

Date and stamp: _____

(*) Tick treatment (when required)

Manufacturer and name of product: _____
 Date and time of treatment (date/time) + 24-hour clock: _____
 Name of veterinarian: _____
 Address: _____ Signature, date and stamp: _____
 Postcode: _____
 City: _____
 Country: _____
 Telephone: _____

(*) Echinococcus treatment (when required)

Manufacturer and name of product: _____
 Date and time of treatment (date/time) + 24-hour clock: _____
 Name of veterinarian: _____

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN OR VETERINARIAN AUTHORIZED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY: Completed by your veterinarian. Veterinarian must stamp the labeled box.

ENDORSEMENT BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY: Completed by the Government Veterinarian Authority. Your veterinarian DOES NOT sign this box.

[BOX VI] TICK TREATMENT (when required): Only required if entering the UK, Sweden, Norway, or Finland. Completed by your veterinarian when applicable.

[BOX VII] ECHINOCOCCUS TREATMENT (when required): Only required if entering the UK, Sweden, Norway, or Finland. Completed by your veterinarian when applicable.



Step 4 → USDA Endorsement: The below referenced forms need to be sent to your local USDA office for their stamp of approval. Your PetRelocation.com agent will provide you with a prepaid, overnight FedEx envelope addressed to your local USDA office. Once your vet completes the EU Vet Health Certificate, simply place that, along with a copy of your pet's rabies certificate and microchip records, into the prepaid envelope and drop it off at your local FedEx dropoff location. Once the USDA endorses the documents, they will overnight them back to you with an enclosed prepaid return label (also provided by PetRelocation.com). Upon return, you can simply turn them over to my driver when he/she arrives to pick up your pet.

To reiterate, the following documents need to be sent to your local USDA office for their stamp of approval:

- Microchip Implantation Record**
- Rabies Certificate**
- EU Vet Health Certificate (Form 998)**
- Copy of Import Permit (will not be endorsed by the USDA, but they will need to see it before they will endorse any of the other documentation)**

If you choose to facilitate the USDA endorsement on your own, then USDA locations for each state can be found at www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/area_offices/

Step 5 → International Health Certificate (Form 7001): Your vet should have these in stock. It's a good idea to call ahead and ask. This is an international health certificate that needs to be completed by your vet within 10 days of departure. Depending on the logistics of your particular pet relocation and the specific health certificate being used, an additional USDA Endorsement maybe required on this health certificate. Speak to your PetRelocation.com specialist regarding the USDA portion of this process.



PURCHASING YOUR PET'S TRAVEL CRATE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF CRATE TRAINING



□ Purchasing Your Pet's Travel Crate

Purchase the crate as far in advance as possible or, if you already own a crate, bring it out of storage and re-introduce your pet to it.

The kennel must meet the following requirements:

- **Constructed of hard, sturdy plastic (Wire/Collapsible Kennels are NOT acceptable)**
- **Ventilated on all sides – No Doors on the Top!**
- **Be large enough for the animal to freely sit and stand with its head erect while not touching the ceiling and turn around & lie down in a normal posture.**
- **It must not have a top loading door**

The size of your pet's travel crate - particularly by air is governed by legislation and it is critical to ensure your container is of the correct minimum dimensions and has the necessary and adequate ventilation required. The internal crate measurement has to be greater than the length of your pet, by at least 2 inches - allowing enough space for your pet to stand up, turnaround and lie down with legs out.

The best approach is to bring your pet with you to the pet store. Many of today's modern pet stores will allow you to bring you pet. Take this opportunity to try your pet's crate on for size. This helps to ensure the proper fit the first time, with out unnecessary shipping or returns due to wrong crate sizes.

The following page details the correct way to determine what size travel crate will best suit your pet's needs:



Good

- Crate is tall enough for pet to stand up comfortably
- Pet does not have to duck to see out of the crate.
- Wide enough for pet to turn around comfortably.
- Long enough for pet to lie down comfortably with paws extended.

A
Height

B
Width

C
Length

A
Height

B
Width

C
Length

Bad

- Crate is too short for pet to stand up straight.
- Pet is ducking to see out.
- Not wide enough for pet to turn around comfortably.
- Not long enough for pet to lie down comfortably with paws extended.



Crate Training: The Most Important Step to Help Ensure Pet Comfort

Getting your pets acclimated to their crate early is by far the single most important thing you can do to help relieve the stress of your pets during their move. Crate Training is a simple process, especially for dogs, and its purpose is to provide 'confinement' for reasons of security, safety, housebreaking, protection, travel or illness.

You may think that putting your pet in a crate is mean or inhumane and might cause your pet to resent you or to be psychologically damaged. However, dogs view the world differently than people. As your dog sees it, the crate is a room of it's very own - a "security blanket" or "comfort zone" if you will. The crate helps to satisfy the "den instinct" inherited from his den-dwelling ancestors and relatives. Your pet will feel secure, not frustrated, once accustomed to its crate.

Puppies are often the easiest to crate train; however many times our customers are relocating adult pets. Older dogs are just as easily trainable, but you must introduce the crate in a slower manner. You cannot just put your dog into the crate and hope they will adjust.

- Place the crate in the room most used by the family or next to the pet's food. This will allow him to associate with this new piece of 'furniture' and its addition to their personal space.**

- Remove the door from the crate! Many times, the swinging door is what scares the pet the most. Encourage your pet to enter voluntarily by tossing a treat into the far end, praising them enthusiastically once they enter, then letting them come right back out.**

- Over a brief period of time, install the door back onto the crate but secure it open so it does not swing freely. Once your pet enters the crate confidently, coax it to lie down and relax, using food, if necessary. Shut the door briefly, while you sit beside the crate or when there are people in the room.**

- When you feel your dog will remain quietly in the crate, leave him alone for 15 - 30 minutes. If all goes well, you can leave him for longer intervals. While traveling, your pet will be in its crate for a long period of time, so it is best to practice longer and longer intervals.**