

Container requirements

In order to fly your pet on our aircraft, you must obtain a travel container that complies with IATA live animal regulations. The container needs to meet the following specifications:

- The container must be made of wood or hard plastic and be rigid on all sides. It should be non-collapsible and there should be no roofgrill/opening
- It must be equipped with a suitable water dish, attached to the inside door of the container – should you not have a water dish we can provide these
- It must be ventilated around all 4 sides (however the sides must not be ventilated at the bottom as this will weaken the integrity of the container)
- The base must be leak-proof
- You must put absorbent material in the bottom of the pet container (i.e. shredded newspaper, animal disposal pads) for the comfort of your pet
- The locking mechanism must be central on the door and be of a kind where the door pins fit through the roof and floor by at least 1.6cm
- The minimum container size we accept is 71 x 52 x 54cm (external measurements)
- If the container looks damaged, your pet and the container may be refused for travel
- Please ensure there is a hole drilled into the container frame, alongside the locking mechanism. This will enable our teams to add a security seal for travel. Please note that the hole can be at the top and bottom of the container but must be on the side of the opening and not on the hinged side. If using a wooden container, please ensure there are eyelets on the door and frame that can be used for sealing. If the container cannot be sealed then it will not be accepted for travel
- If you are using a plastic container and there are holes on the 4 corners of the containers, please ensure these are cable tied for extra security

How to ensure the correct sized container for your pet (internal measurements)

To assist in determining the size of the travel container, the following IATA formula must be used. The calculated dimensions are internal dimensions and relate to the standing animal in a natural position:

A = length of animal from tip of nose to base/root of tail

B = height from ground to elbow joint. $A + \frac{1}{2} B$ = minimum length of container

C = width across shoulders or widest point (whichever is the greater). $C \times 2$ = width of container

D = height of the animal in natural standing position from top of the head or the ear tip to the floor (whichever is higher) = height of the container (top flat or arched)

Please add 5 cm on top of this measurement to cover adequate headroom.

Please note minimum internal container dimensions are:

$A + \frac{1}{2} B$ = length

$C \times 2$ = width

D = height



These measurements will ensure that your pet will have sufficient space to stand up, lie down and turn around comfortably whilst in flight.

Please note failure to have the correct size kennel could result in your pet being refused for transport on the day of departure.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

For further information on any of the above please feel free to contact a member of our Shipping department on **0344 873 8000**.

I have read and understood the Virgin Atlantic Cargo container requirements document:

Signed Date AWB number