











Rules relating to certain breeds of dog

[The Control of Dogs Regulations 1998 \(S.I. No. 442 of 1998\)](#) impose additional rules in relation to the following breeds (and strains/cross-breeds) of dog in Ireland:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Pit Bull Terrier	 A photograph of an American Pit Bull Terrier dog, which is a muscular breed with a broad head and a short coat. This particular dog is brown with a white patch on its chest and is standing on a gravel path.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English Bull Terrier	 A photograph of an English Bull Terrier dog, characterized by its egg-shaped head and a coat with black and white patches. It is standing on grass and looking to the right.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staffordshire Bull Terrier	 A photograph of a Staffordshire Bull Terrier dog, a breed known for its egg-shaped head and a coat that is mostly grey with white markings. It is sitting on a paved surface.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bull Mastiff	 A photograph of a Bull Mastiff dog, a large breed with a powerful build and a coat that is fawn or tan in color. It is standing on grass.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dobermann Pinscher	 A photograph of a Dobermann Pinscher dog, a breed known for its sleek, dark coat and pointed ears. This dog is dark brown and is standing on a green lawn.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• German Shepherd (Alsatian)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rhodesian Ridgeback	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rottweiler	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese Akita	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese Tosa	

- Bandog



The rules state that:

- These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must be kept on a short strong lead by a person over 16 years who is capable of controlling them
- These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must be muzzled whenever they are in a public place
- These dogs (or strains and crosses of them) must wear a collar bearing the name and address of their owner at all times.

The rules on muzzling and leashing do not apply to dogs used by the Gardaí, the Dublin Harbour Police, State Airport Police and bona fide rescue teams in rescue operations. The rules on muzzling do not apply to guide dogs for the blind.