

STRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION	Primary enclosures must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair. [3.6, 3.28, 3.53, 3.80, 3.104, 3.125]
Criteria:	Primary enclosures must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• protect the animal from injury• contain the animal securely• restrict entrance of other animals
Species Specific:	Dogs & Cats Primary enclosures must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have no sharp points or edges that could injure the animal [3.6(a)(2)(I)]• keep the animal clean and dry [3.6(a)(2)(v)]• provide shelter and protection from extreme temperature and weather conditions [3.6(a)(2)(vi)]• provide sufficient shade to shelter all the animals in the enclosure at one time [3.6(a)(2)(vii)]• provide access to clean food and water [3.6(a)(2)(viii)]• enable all surfaces in contact with the animal to be cleaned and sanitized, or replaced when worn or soiled [3.6(a)(2)(ix)] Floors of primary enclosures must: [3.6(a)(2)(x)] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• protect the animal's feet and legs from injury• not allow the animal's feet to pass through it If floor of primary enclosure is of mesh or slatted construction, it must: [3.6(a)(2)(xi)] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have floors that do not sag or bend between the structural supports• have metal rods >1/8 of an inch in diameter• have metal rods <1/8 of an inch in diameter coated with a material such as plastic or fiberglass

Dogs only [3.6(c)(4)]

Permanent tethering is prohibited for use as a primary enclosure.

Temporary tethering is allowed if:

- 3 days or fewer with the approval of the APHIS inspector (verbal or written)
- longer than 3 days with written approval from APHIS Animal Care (AC) Regional Office

An approval request for tethering a dog longer than 3 days must:

- be in writing
- contain the reason/justification for tethering the dog
- contain the length of time the dog will be tethered
- be sent to the appropriate AC Regional Office

Factors to consider when approving or disapproving temporary tethering include, but are not limited to:

- reason for tethering, i.e., routine cleaning and/or maintenance
- availability of shelter
- length of tether
- type and strength of tether
- length of time on tether
- method of attachment of tether to animal
- possible entanglements with other animals or objects
- access to food and water
- breed and behavioral characteristics
- protection from predators
- safety of the animal from the public
- safety of the public from the animal

Cats only [3.6]

Primary enclosures must contain:

- a receptacle with sufficient clean litter [3.6(b)(3)]
- a resting surface which is: [3.6(b)(4)]
 - ▶ elevated
 - ▶ impervious to moisture
 - ▶ easily cleaned and sanitized

- ▶ replaced when soiled or worn
- ▶ large enough to hold all the cats in the enclosure

*Mobile Housing for **dogs & cats*** [3.6(c)(4), 3.6(b)(5)]

While traveling, dog/cat primary enclosures must meet all the transportation requirements (see Transportation).

When not traveling, dog/cat primary enclosures must meet all minimum requirements for permanent primary enclosures.

Guinea Pigs & Hamsters

Primary enclosures must:

- be constructed of smooth material which is impervious to moisture, including racks, shelving and other accessories [3.28(a)(1)]
- provide access to food and water [3.28(a)(2)]
- have floors that:
 - ▶ have clean bedding if solid [3.28(a)(3)]
 - ▶ allow feces to pass through if mesh or wire [3.28(a)(4)]
 - ▶ protect the animal's feet and legs from injury if mesh or wire [3.28(a)(4)]

Rabbits

Primary enclosures must:

- enable the animal to remain clean and dry [3.53(a)(2)]
- provide access to food and water [3.53(a)(3)]
- have floors that:
 - ▶ protect the animal's feet and legs from injury
 - ▶ have litter if solid [3.53(a)(4)]
- have a nest box with clean nesting material if housing a female with a litter <1 month of age [3.53(a)(5)]

Nonhuman Primates

Primary enclosures must:

- have no sharp points or edges that could injure the animal [3.80(a)(2)(i)]
- prevent accidental opening of the enclosure [3.80(a)(2)(iii)]
- prevent physical contact by unwanted animals [3.80(a)(2)(iv)]
- keep the animals clean and dry [3.80(a)(2)(v)]
- provide shelter and protection from extreme temperatures and weather conditions [3.80(a)(2)(vi)]
- provide sufficient shade to shelter all the animals in the enclosure at one time [3.80(a)(2)(vii)]
- provide access to clean food and water [3.80(a)(2)(viii)]
- enable all surfaces in contact with the animal to be cleaned and sanitized, or replaced when worn or soiled [3.80(a)(2)(ix)]
- have floors that protect the animal from injury [3.80(a)(2)(x)]

Marine Mammals

Nonfood items provided for environmental enrichment in the primary enclosure or pool must: [3.101(g)]

- be cleanable, sanitizable and/or replaceable
 - be large enough and strong enough to prevent ingestion
 - not be readily breakable
 - not be likely to cause injury to the animal
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