

TABLE 2: Doghouse Dimensions for Dogs of Various Sizes

Areas and ceiling heights are inside measurements.	10" - shoulder 12" - sitting	Toy Poodles Scottish Terriers	12" - shoulder 14" - sitting	Miniature Poodles Welsh Corgis	16" - shoulder 18" - sitting	Shetland Sheepdogs Cocker Spaniels	20" - shoulder 23" - sitting	Dalmatians Pointers	24" - shoulder 27" - sitting	Retrievers Collies	28" - shoulder 32" - sitting	Newfoundlands St. Bernards
Sleeping Area	15" x 24"	11" x 15"	16" x 27"	18" x 31"	20" x 36"	22" x 39"	25" x 43"	28" x 32"	32" x 36"	36" x 39"	40" x 43"	44" x 43"
Hall Area	11" x 15"	11" x 15"	12" x 16"	12" x 18"	12" x 20"	14" x 22"	16" x 25"	18" x 28"	20" x 30"	22" x 33"	24" x 36"	28" x 40"
Combined Area (Sleeping & Hall)	15" x 35"	15" x 35"	16" x 39"	18" x 43"	20" x 48"	22" x 53"	25" x 59"	28" x 64"	32" x 68"	36" x 72"	40" x 76"	44" x 80"
Ceiling Height	14"	14"	16"	20"	25"	30"	36"	42"	48"	54"	60"	66"
Doorways	7" square	7" square	8" square	9" square	10" square	11" square	12" square	13" square	14" square	15" square	16" square	17" square
Roof	25" x 48"	25" x 48"	26" x 54"	34" x 62"	36" x 72"	38" x 78"	41" x 86"	44" x 94"	48" x 98"	52" x 102"	56" x 106"	60" x 110"
Platform (if used)	25" x 48"	25" x 48"	26" x 54"	34" x 62"	36" x 72"	38" x 78"	41" x 86"	44" x 94"	48" x 98"	52" x 102"	56" x 106"	60" x 110"

If you kennel your dog outdoors, the Ontario SPCA strongly recommends that:

- Dogs should NOT be chained. Severe physical injury, even death, can easily result. Chained dogs also suffer psychologically and they are 80% more likely to bite. Fence your yard, don't chain your dog!
- A dog that is kenneled outdoors should always spend time indoors with the opportunity for socializing and play;
- Your doghouse should have a flat roof to enable the dog to get off cold ground.

Additional Considerations

Some breeds of dogs can live outside during the winter, at least in southern Ontario, if they are provided with an insulated doghouse of the proper dimensions. The dimensions are directly related to the size of the dog and are critically important if the dog is to maintain warmth in the doghouse with its own body heat. The more heavily-coated breeds will endure cold temperatures more easily than will the short-coated breeds, such as Dachshunds, Chihuahuas, Bulldogs, Boxers, etc.

Dogs should be acclimatized to outdoor living when they are young and also when the weather is warm. Owners should be aware that, during severe weather, dogs may have to be brought inside the family home. Aged, young or infirm animals should not be housed outdoors.

Dogs with short coats are prone to frostbite. Dogs that are ill or elderly must be kept inside in cold weather for their well being.

Doghouse exteriors should be finished with a weatherproof material or nonleaded paint. Changing the location of the doghouse from summer to winter will allow you to control the effects of the sun, shade and wind.

Bedding material should be put in the sleeping area. Straw is the recommended bedding. It is not advisable to use blankets. Change the bedding every 1 to 2 weeks, or as required, and keep the house interior clean.

A burlap or canvas outside flap should be used to provide more weather protection in the winter. The wall separating the hall from the sleeping area may be made removable for maximum summer coolness.

The house should be elevated on bricks or cinder blocks to keep the floor dry and it may then be necessary to provide a ramp or step so your dog can get over the raised sill when entering. A low base platform is preferable and allows the dog an area off the ground on which to lie when outside its house.

If your present doghouse has a peaked roof, and if it is large enough, it may be possible to install an insulated ceiling and a separate hallway, in order to make it warmer in the winter. If the roof is not insulated, heat from a dog could cause snow to melt and freeze, causing an ice jam on top. Insulation board sandwiched by plywood should do the trick. In addition, a small rainproof vent could help to dissipate any moisture accumulated inside, thereby reducing the possibility of mould.

IDEAL DOGHOUSE

for
Outdoor Use in Ontario



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in the interests of animal welfare



Doghouse Construction

The doghouse illustrated in Fig. 2 can be simply made from readily available materials. Basically, it is a frame of 2" x 2"s, with a " or i " weatherproof plywood exterior. It has an entrance and hallway that are separated from a sleeping area. Walls, floors and ceiling of the sleeping area are insulated with 1 " styrofoam sheets which, in turn, are covered on the inside with a panelling of " hardboard or similar material.

Size of Sleeping Area Floor Space

For each inch of your dog's height (measured from top of shoulder to ground), allow 36 square inches of floor space. For example, a dog 12 inches tall needs 432 square inches of floor space, or a floor area of 16" x 27" = 432 square inches.

Height of Sleeping Area

Add 1 or 2 inches to your dog's measurement when in a sitting position (from top of head to ground), in order to determine the ceiling height. For example, a dog 12 inches tall will have a sitting height of about 14 inches and the doghouse ceiling should be 15 or 16 inches high.

Overall Doghouse Dimensions

For example, a Dalmatian (20" tall, sitting height 23") doghouse should measure: sleeping area - 20" x 36"; hall area - 12" x 20"; ceiling height - 25"; doorways - 10" square; roof - 36" x 72".

For other breeds' doghouse dimensions, see Table 2

FIG. 2:

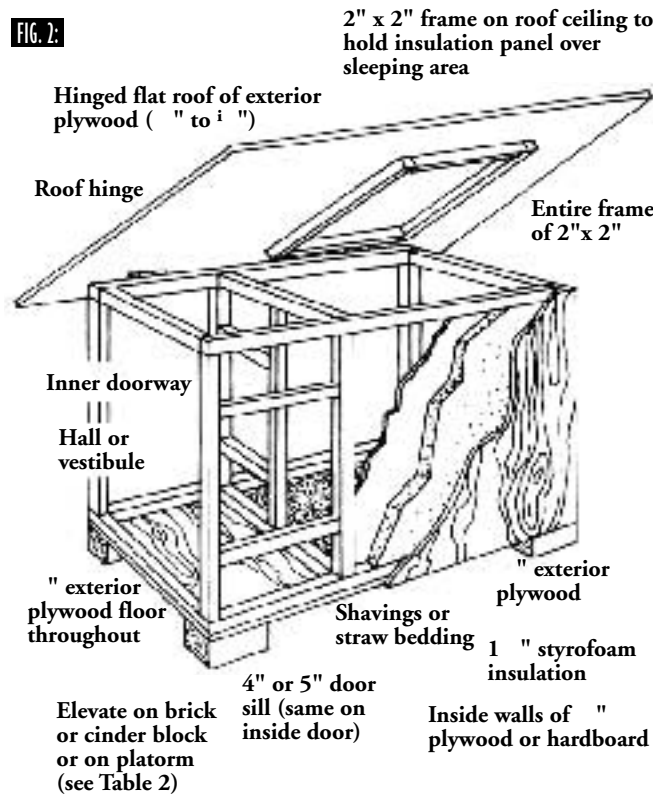
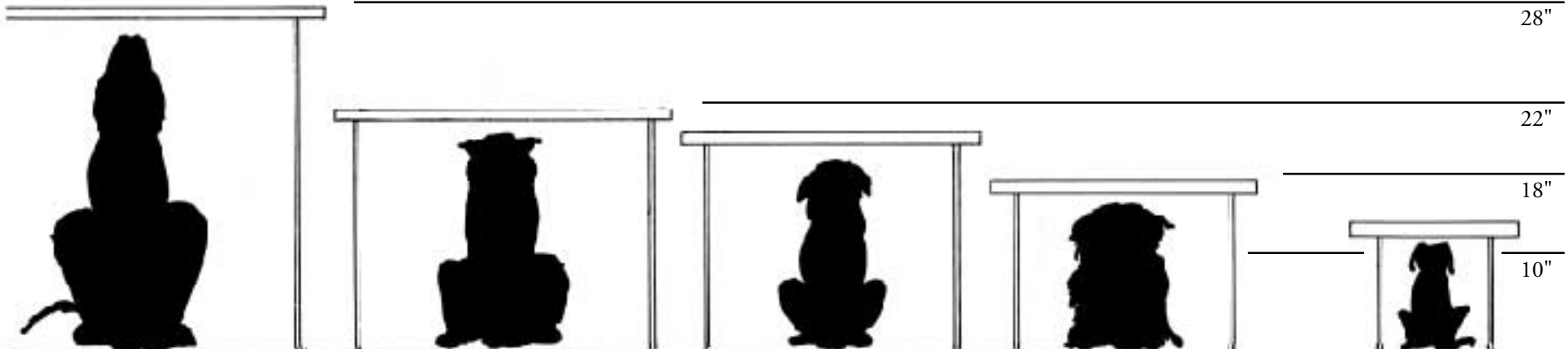


TABLE 1: Breed Shoulder Heights	
Poodle, toy	up to 10"
Scottish Terrier	10"
Poodle, miniature	10" to 14"
Welsh Corgi	11" to 12"
Shetland Sheepdog	13" to 16"
Fox Terrier	15" to 15 "
American Cocker	15" to 15 "
Poodle, standard	15" to 16"
Dalmatian	20" to 23"
Boxer	22" to 24"
Collie	22" to 24"
Retriever	22" to 25"
German Shepherd	22" to 26"
Old English Sheepdog	22"
Airedale	23"
Doberman	25"
St. Bernard	25" to 27 "
Newfoundland	26" to 28"
Great Dane	28" to 30"
Russian Wolfhound	28" to 31"

FIG. 1:



The *Criminal Code* of Canada requires animal owners and custodians to provide suitable and adequate food, water, shelter and care for their animals. Failure to supply these necessities could result in the animal being removed and might lead to the prosecution of its owner or custodian.