

DOG KENNEL CLEANING CHECKLIST

pawwisedaily.com • Free Printable

Page 1 of 2

HOW TO USE: Daily tasks keep the kennel safe. Weekly tasks handle surfaces and bedding. Monthly tasks eliminate deeper odors. Deep clean every 3-6 months. Always let the kennel dry completely before returning your dog.

■ Daily Tasks

- ☐ Remove and discard any uneaten food
Remove within 2 hrs — leftover food attracts bacteria and insects
- ☐ Wash and refill water bowl with fresh water
Daily slime buildup in bowls can harbor harmful bacteria
- ☐ Remove all solid waste and soiled bedding
- ☐ Spot clean soiled floor areas with pet-safe cleaner
- ☐ Check bedding — replace if wet or odorous
- ☐ Inspect for damage, sharp edges, escape risks
- ☐ Wipe down food and water bowl area
- ☐ Check for fleas, ticks, or insects

■ Weekly Tasks

- ☐ Wash all bedding in hot water (130°F+)
Hot water kills bacteria, flea eggs, and parasites
- ☐ Scrub and disinfect food and water bowls
Stainless steel is easier to sanitize than plastic
- ☐ Scrub kennel floor with pet-safe disinfectant
- ☐ Wipe down all walls and wire surfaces
- ☐ Clean kennel door, latch, and hinges
- ☐ Wash and dry all toys in the kennel
- ☐ Sweep or vacuum around the kennel
- ☐ Check and clean drain if applicable
- ☐ Tighten any loose hardware or panels
- ☐ Ventilate kennel 30+ minutes if indoors

■ Monthly Tasks

- ☐ Deep scrub all surfaces with enzymatic cleaner
Enzymatic cleaners break down urine proteins — soap just masks odors
- ☐ Sanitize with pet-safe disinfectant after scrubbing
Always clean before disinfecting for best results
- ☐ Replace old or worn bedding
- ☐ Check and treat for fleas and ticks
- ☐ Inspect and clean kennel roof or cover
- ☐ Clean surrounding area — sweep or hose down
- ☐ Replace cracked or damaged bowls
- ☐ Inspect for rust, splinters, or sharp edges
- ☐ Rotate toys — discard damaged ones

■ Deep Clean — Every 3–6 Months

- ☐ Remove everything — bedding, bowls, toys
- ☐ Hose down entire kennel structure
- ☐ Scrub all surfaces with enzymatic cleaner
- ☐ Rinse thoroughly — no residue should remain
Residue irritates paws and respiratory system
- ☐ Apply disinfectant — let dwell per label
- ☐ Rinse again — dry completely before dog returns
Allow 1–3 hrs: wet kennel = mold and bacteria
- ☐ Wash all bedding and soft toys
- ☐ Soak and scrub all hard toys and bowls
- ☐ Check all joints and fasteners for rust
- ☐ Treat surrounding ground with pet-safe spray
- ☐ Apply fresh bedding — replace worn items
- ☐ Log the deep clean date

■ PRO KENNEL CLEANING TIPS

- Always clean before disinfecting — disinfectants are far less effective on dirty surfaces.
- Never return your dog to a wet kennel. Damp environments breed bacteria and mold quickly.
- Stainless steel bowls are easier to sanitize than plastic — no cracks for bacteria to hide in.
- Enzymatic cleaners are the only way to truly eliminate urine odor — regular soap just masks it.
- For parvo prevention, bleach at 1:32 dilution is one of the few disinfectants proven effective.

More free pet care tools at pawwisedaily.com

Dog feeding calculator • Pet age calculator • New puppy checklist • And more!