

Most Illegal Dog Breeds in the World

Dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but these dog breeds are illegal in some parts of the world.

Dogo Argentino

Bred to be a fighting dog, [Dogos](#) are large, muscular, and capable of taking down a [wild boar or puma](#). Though they are considered loyal and courageous, they can also be aggressive and because of this are banned or severely restricted in countries like the UK, New Zealand, Denmark, and Ukraine.

Boerboel

Bred in South Africa to be guard dogs and exported all over the world, the [Boerboel](#) can be loyal and intelligent but are also known to be aggressive towards strangers. Their bite can tear [through muscle](#) or even break bones, leading to several countries banning the breed.

Cane Corso

A mastiff breed, [Corsos](#) are natural guard dogs due to their hunting instincts and territorial behavior. This dog is [banned](#) in some countries due not only to its immense size but also its violent behavior towards other dogs, no matter the size, breed, or sex.

Japanese Tosa

Another kind of dog bred for fighting, the [Tosas](#) are muscular with large heads and necks and can get up to 80 kilos in weight. These dogs were intended to engage in a “sumo” style of dog fighting and are very rare today, but their history has caused some countries to ban this breed.

Neopolitan Mastiff

Although they’re “gentle giants,” [Neopolitan Mastiffs](#) are considered dangerous mostly due to their [incredible size](#), which makes them hazardous around children especially if the dog isn’t well trained. Some countries have outright banned the breed while others give the dog a psychological exam before someone can adopt it.

Doberman Pinscher

Fiercely intelligent, [Dobermans](#) can be very loyal watch dogs but are also known to be stubborn and need to be trained and socialized properly as well as constantly exercised or else they become aggressive and destructive. This has led to the breed being banned in Ireland, Singapore, and Romania.

Presa Canario

An incredibly muscular dog breed, [Canarios](#) are loyal to their masters but highly suspicious of strangers and are aggressive towards children, cats, and even other dogs. In 2017, a [woman](#) (*image of Diane Whipple in background*) in Ireland was killed by several of these dogs that were trained for fighting.

German Shepherd

Incredibly intelligent and trainable, [German Shepherds](#) are often used as police dogs or search and rescue dogs. Due to their high energy levels, Shepherds can also be aggressive if not trained and exercised properly, which is why the breed has been [banned](#) in some countries.

American Bandog

A rare crossbreed between mastiffs and pitbulls, the [bandog](#) contains traits of both parent breeds. They were used as guard dogs in medieval times and were used to fight bears and bulls, but now are banned in any country that also bans mastiffs and pitbulls.

Rottweiler

The [Rottweiler](#) was bred to herd livestock and have an innate guarding instinct, but like any dog of this size, can be dangerous if not properly trained or socialized. Most countries that have [banned](#) the breed have done so out of concern for their owners not being able to control them if they display aggressive behavior.

American Bulldog

Not to be confused with pitbulls, [American Bulldogs](#) are descended from English dogs and were used mostly as watchdogs. Due to this, the bulldogs are known to be very friendly and loyal to their owners but aggressive and suspicious towards strangers, in addition to having a very powerful bite.

Wolf Dog

[Hybrids](#) of various kinds of wolves and domestic dogs, these animals are known for their intellect and strength, but this also makes them wildly unpredictable. [Wolfdogs](#) are often classified as wild animals unable to be domesticated and have been outlawed in Finland and several American states.

Fila Brasileiro

Weighing about 50 kilos, the [Fila Brasileiro](#) was bred as a livestock guard dog and earned the nickname "The Brazilian Fighting Dog " because of its intellect, temperament, and aggressiveness. The Brasileiro is [difficult to train](#) and often refuses to listen to commands, leading to it being illegal to own in many countries.

Pit Bull

Descended from English terriers and bulldogs, [Pitbulls](#) are known for their excitable nature and athletic bodies. While not all kinds of pitbulls are dangerous, they can be aggressive if not socialized or trained properly, and gained a fearsome [reputation](#) which led to the breed being banned in several countries and a few U.S. States.