

PETS

Forbidden Pets

No animals are forbidden as pets except animals that are dangerous and pigs (which were a special prohibition).

Pets as Waste of Money

Having a pet is not considered wasting money since you get enjoyment, protection, or other value from it.

Reason To Not Own Pets

You may own pets but it is not customary unless they are needed for protection since you might violate a Torah prohibition of eating before you have fed them.

When You May Eat Before Your Pet Eats

You must be very careful to feed your animals every day before you eat (otherwise you are violating a Torah commandment). If your animal only eats late in the day, you may eat before that.

Pet Food If Forbidden by Torah

You may not feed your pet anything that Torah law says you may not benefit from, such as food containing meat and milk that have been cooked together.

Pet Medicine on Shabbat and Jewish Festivals

Pets may be given medicine on Shabbat and Jewish festivals.