

Poultry - How many can I have at my property?

The number of chickens and poultry you can have is dependent on the size of your property. The number of animals you can keep is regulated by council's local law. Animals must be kept in a way that does not cause a noise, smell or wandering nuisance to others.

If a permit from council is required for you to keep the number of animals on your property, an Additional animal permit application must be lodged to council, along with payment of the application fee. A council officer will then be in contact to discuss the suitability of your property to keep the number of animals.

Don't know the size of your property or want to know more about getting a permit for additional animals? Contact council on 07 3205 0555 for assistance.

For information on other animal types please visit www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Poultry

Chickens (excludes roosters/cockerels)		
Property size	How many can I have?	
Properties of 299m ² or less	0	
Properties of 300m ² or greater, up to 599m ²	3	
Properties of 600m ² or greater, up to 1000m ²	6	
Properties of 1,001m ² or greater up to 3,000m ²	12	
Properties of 3,001m ² or greater up to 10,000m ²	20	
Properties of 10,001m ² or greater	30	
Roosters/cockerels		
Property size	How many can I have?	
Properties of 6,000m ² or less	0	
Properties of 6,001m ² or greater, up to 20,000m ²	1 with a permit approved by council	
Properties of 20,001m ² or greater	1	
Geese/turkey/guinea fowl/peacock		
Property size	How many can I have?	
Properties of 20,000m ² or less	0	
Properties of 20,001m ² or more	10	
Duck		
Property size	How many can I have?	Can I get a permit for more?
Properties of 3,000m ² or less	0	No – no ducks allowed
Properties of 3,001m ² or greater up to 10,000m ²	10	No – maximum of 10 ducks allowed
Properties of 10,001m ² or greater	20	Yes – approval can be sought for additional ducks
Ratites (ostrich/emu or similar)		
Property size	How many can I have?	Can I get a permit for more?
Properties of 20,000m ² or less	0	No – no ratites allowed
Properties of 20,001m ² or more	0	Yes – approval can be sought for additional ratites

Minimum standards for keeping animals

Animals must be kept in accordance with the requirements of any code of practice approved by resolution of the local government.

Animal enclosures

- Enclosures built specifically for the keeping of animals are to be maintained to an acceptable structural condition; and
- Uneaten food scraps, manure and any other material likely to become offensive (i.e. faeces, soiled bedding, litter) and create a nuisance must be collected at least daily and if not immediately removed from the premises, must be kept in a suitable vermin proof container prior to disposal; and
- Vermin and pests including fleas, flies, ticks, lice, and rodents, must be controlled in and around the enclosure; and
- Run off from animal enclosure(s) must not be allowed to discharge to any adjoining property.

Animal identification

- Dogs and cats must wear the tag supplied by the local government.
- Stock must have a distinguishing brand, bolus, ear tag and/or be micro chipped. The owner of one or more head of stock or 100 or more poultry including caged birds must be registered with Biosecurity Queensland.
- Birds, excluding poultry, must have an identifying leg band or be micro-chipped.

Minimum distance from boundary

- Roofed or fully enclosed (caged) structure for the housing of animals must be a minimum 1.5 metres from any property boundary.

Minimum standards for keeping particular animals

The minimum standards for keeping particular animals are identified in the table below:

Species or breed of animal	Minimum standards for keeping particular animals
Racing pigeons	Racing pigeons must be confined to their home loft after their designated race or exercise period.
Ratites (ostrich, emu, and other similar birds)	<p>A person must not on any premises keep ratites in densities greater than:</p> <p>(i) Chicks 0 to 12 weeks of age - a shed density of not more than 3 chicks per m² with an additional outside run of 5m² per chick; or</p> <p>(ii) Juveniles 12 weeks to 6 months of age – a maximum density of not more than two per m² with an additional outside run of 40m² per chick; or</p> <p>(iii) Yearlings 6 months to 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 100 per hectare; or</p> <p>(iv) Mature ratites over 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 18 per hectare.</p>