

Appendix for Welfare of pigs (SMR17)

Applicable from 01/01/2013

Size of individual stall or pen:

Inside area: must be at least equal to the square of the length of the pig.

Sides: no side must be less than 75% of the length of the pig.

The length of the pig is measured from the tip of its snout to the base of its tail when standing with its back straight.

Exceptions to minimum size requirements:

- to a female pig for the period between seven days before the predicted day of her farrowing and the day on which her piglets are weaned (including any piglets fostered by her);
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen for veterinary purposes;
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen for the purposes of servicing, artificial insemination or collecting semen;
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen while it is fed
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen for the purposes of marking, washing or weighing it;
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen while its accommodation is being cleaned;
- keeping a pig in a stall or pen while it is waiting to be loaded for transportation.

However, the period during which you keep the pig must not be longer than needed for that purpose.

The requirements for a minimum size of stall or pen also do not apply if it is referring to a stall or pen that the pig can enter or leave when it wants. In this case the stall must be entered from another stall or pen where the pig is normally kept and which does comply by the minimum standards.

Amount of unobstructed floor space for boars:

Each adult boar must have at least six square metres of unobstructed floor space.

If used for natural service the floor area must be at least ten square metres and free of obstacles.

Amount of unobstructed floor space for weaners/rearers:

Average weight of pigs in the group (kilograms)	Minimum unobstructed floor space (square metres)
10 or less	0.15
Greater than 10 but less than or equal to 20	0.20
Greater than 20 but less than or equal to 30	0.30
Greater than 30 but less than or equal to 50	0.40
Greater than 50 but less than or equal to 85	0.55
Greater than 85 but less than or equal to 110	0.65
Greater than 110	1.00

Measurements of concrete slatted floors when keeping pigs in groups:

Type	Definition	Maximum width of openings (Directive requirement)	Tolerance ¹	Acceptable Maximum Gap width	Minimum width of slats
Piglet	Pig from birth to weaning	11mm	No tolerance	11mm	50mm
Weaner	Pig from weaning to the age of ten weeks	14mm	10-14mm +/-2mm	16mm	50mm
Rearer	Pig from the age of ten weeks to slaughter or service	18mm	14-18mm +/- 3mm	21mm	80mm
Gilt	Female pig between service and first farrowing	20mm	14-20mm +/- 3mm	23mm	80mm
Sow	Female pig after the first farrowing	20mm	14-20mm +/- 3mm	23mm	80mm
Boar	Male pig after puberty, intended for breeding	20mm	14-20mm +/- 3mm	23mm	80mm

Pen size for sows and gilts kept in groups:

The sides of the pens must be greater than 2.8 metres in length when there are six in the group.

The sides of the pens must be at least 2.4 metres in length when there are fewer than six in the group.

Flooring for sows and gilts:

Amount of unobstructed floor space must be at least:

- 1.64 square metres for each gilt.
- 2.25 square metres for each sow.

If the animals are kept in groups of fewer than six the unobstructed floor area must be increased by 10%.

If the animals are kept in groups of 40 or more the unobstructed floor area can be reduced by 10%.

Part of the floor area must be continuous solid floor:

- At least 0.95 square metres for each gilt,
- At least 1.3 square metres for each sow,

Up to 15% of the solid floor area may be reserved for drainage openings.

¹ European Commission guidance (2012) indicates that, due to agreed European manufacturing tolerances in pre-cast concrete, for weaner pigs to adults a +2mm or +3mm gap tolerance should be allowed depending on type of pig. Note, that there is no tolerance for gaps for piglets or for slat width which must achieve the minimum.