Minimum Enclosure Size Guidelines for rehabilitating wildlife

Please note: the dimensions provided below are estimated standard sizes and not all animals will be the same (e.g. age, sex, condition, health status) therefore in general an enclosure should allow an animal to stretch out fully, turn around, and stand up (express normal range of motion).

Mammals

Type of mammal (examples)	Critical care[1] L x W (or area m^2) x H (m)	Intermediate care L x W (or area m^2) x H (m)	Pre-release L x W (or area m^2) x H^2 (m)	Maximum number of individuals pre-release[3]
Microbats	0.06 m^2 x 0.3	0.25 m^2 x 0.5	8 x 8 x 4*	10
Small Rodents, Dasyurids	0.06 m^2 x 0.2	0.3 m^2 x 0.6	4 m^2 x 1	NA
Eastern Quoll, Water Rat and Bandicoots	0.15 m^2 x 0.5	0.25 m^2 x 0.3	8 m^2 x 2	4
Devil, Spotted-tailed Quoll	1 x 1 x 0.5	2 m^2 x 1.2	100 m^2 x 1.2	2
Bettong and Potoroo	0.25 m^2 x 0.5	1 m^2 x 1	12 m^2 x 1.2	4
Tasmanian Pademelon	1 m^2 x 1	4 m^2 x 2	36 m^2 x 1.5	5
Bennetts Wallaby	2.25 m^2 x 1.8	9 m^2 x 1.8	600 m^2 x 2	4
Eastern Grey (Forester) Kangaroo	4 m^2 x 1.8	30 m^2 x 1.8	2400 m^2 x 1.8	4 (Increases by 240m^2 for each additional)
Pygmy Possum	0.06 m^2 x 0.5	0.18 m^2 x 1	2 m^2 x 2	6
Brushtail and Ringtail Possums	0.25 m^2 x 0.8	1 m^2 x 1	4 x 2 x 2*	2
Wombat	2 m^2 x 1.2	6 m^2 x 1.2	40 m^2 x 1.5	2
Echidna	0.25 m^2 x 0.5	2.25 m^2 x 1	20 m^2 x 1.5	2

Reptiles

Type of reptile (example)	Critical care L x W x H (m)	Intermediate care L x W (or area m^2) x H (m)	Number of individuals
Small Skinks	0.2 x 0.2 x 0.15	0.5 x 0.3 x 0.3	2
Large skinks (Blotched Blue -tongue Skink, Sheoak)	0.5 x 0.3 x 0.3	1 m^2 x 0.5	2
Mountain Dragon	0.3 x 0.3 x 0.2	0.5 x 0.3 x 0.3	2
White-lipped (Whip) Snake	0.6 x 0.3 x 0.3	0.7 x 0.6 x 0.5	1
Copperhead and Tiger Snake	0.5 x 0.4 x 0.5	2.25^2 x 0.6	1

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[1]Critical and intermediate care measurements are for one adult individual. The minimum length and width of these enclosures need to be equal or greater to the length of the animal.

[2]The height of enclosure listed is for above ground only.

[3]This assumes that the animals are compatible. Additional floor space should be added with each additional animal.

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Birds

Type of bird (example and/or length of bird)	Critical care[4] L x W x H (m)	Intermediate care[5] L x W (or area m^2) x H (m)	Pre-release L x W (or area m^2) x H (m)	Number of individuals	Pool size and depth (m)
Small Passerines (< 20 cm length)	0.5 x 0.3 x 0.2	0.6 x 0.5 x 0.2	6 m^2 x 2	8	NA
Medium Passerines (20 – 40 cm) and parrots	0.5 x 0.5 x0.2	2 m^2 x 0.3	7 m^2 x 2	6	NA
Large Passerines (>40 cm) and Cockatoos	0.5 x 0.5 x 0.4	4 m^2	25 m^2 x 2	4	NA
Small water birds (Ducks)	0.4 x 0.4	0.36 m^2	8 m^2 x 2	2	1 m^2 x 0.5
Large water birds (Swan)	0.7 x 0.7	1 m^2	12 m^2 x 2	2	6 m^2 x 0.7
Small sea birds (Gulls, Cormorants)	0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5	0.36 m^2	8 m^2 x 2	2	1 m^2 x 0.3
Large sea birds (Albatrosses, Pelicans)	1 x 1 x 1	4 x 2.5 x 1.5	12 m^2 x 2	1	6 m^2 x 0.7
Small raptors (< 60 cm)	0.5 x 0.5 x 0.3	4 m^2	Circular aviary with central pillar or similar, diameter of 10m	Up to 10 depending on aviary size and species	NA
			Tunnel 10 x 1 x 2	Up to 5 depending on aviary size and species	
Large raptors (≥ 60 cm) (Eagles and Harrier)	1 x 1 x 0.7	9 m^2	Circular aviary with central pillar or similar, diameter of 10m	Up to 10 depending on aviary size and species	NA
			Tunnel 10 x 1 x 2	Up to 5 depending on aviary size and species	
Little Penguins	0.2 m^2 x 0.4	1 m^2 x 0.4	16 m^2 x 2 (1 x 2 ground)	5	2 m^2 x 0.7

[4]Assumes for smaller birds that an incubator will be the smallest form of enclosure.

[5]Tail feathers of perching birds must not touch faeces