

# DIN EN 17984-2:2025-12 (E)

## Assistance dogs - Part 2: Dog lifetime welfare

---

<b>Contents</b>		<b>Page</b>
	European foreword .....	4
	Introduction .....	5
1	Scope .....	7
2	Normative references .....	7
3	Terms and definitions .....	7
4	Use of the Five Domains Model to support lifetime welfare .....	7
4.1	General .....	7
4.2	Good nutrition (Minimize thirst and hunger and enable eating to be a pleasurable experience) .....	7
4.3	Good environment (Minimize discomfort and exposure and promote thermal, physical, and other comforts) .....	8
4.4	Good health (Minimize breathlessness, nausea, pain, and other aversive experiences and promote the pleasures of robustness, vigour, strength, and well-coordinated physical activity) .....	9
4.5	Behavioural interactions (Minimize threats and unpleasant restriction on all kinds of behavioural interactions and promote engagement in rewarding activities) .....	10
4.6	Positive mental experiences (Promote various forms of comfort, pleasure, interest, confidence, and a sense of control) .....	10
4.7	Mitigation for specific welfare risks for different types of assistance dogs .....	11
5	Breeding .....	11
5.1	General .....	11
5.2	Breeding programme .....	11
5.3	Reproducing dogs: bitches and studs .....	11
5.4	Breeding selection .....	12
5.5	Medical tests .....	12
5.6	Whelping facilities .....	12
5.7	Prenatal status .....	13
5.8	Neonatal care .....	13
5.9	Daily routine .....	13
5.10	Socialization and habituation .....	13
6	Puppy raising programme and education .....	14
7	Dog welfare during travel and transportation .....	15
8	Dog qualification .....	16
9	Dogs removed or retired from an assistance dog programme .....	16
9.1	General .....	16
9.2	Retirement of the assistance dog .....	16
9.3	Rehoming of dogs removed or retired from the programme .....	17
10	Euthanasia .....	17
	Annex A (informative) Recommendations for veterinarians completing health assessments .....	18

<b>Annex B (normative) Welfare of assistance dogs required to perform tasks related to balance/stability .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Annex C (informative) Hygiene plan for assistance dog facilities .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>	<b>26</b>