

An AMRRIC guide to sizing animals for anti-parasite and census programs

A resource to aid the delivery of companion animal
health related activities in remote communities

| Feb 2023



Why do we need to know the size of an animal?

When we give animals medicine, the amount or dose we give them is decided by their size and weight

This is important to make sure the medicines we use work properly

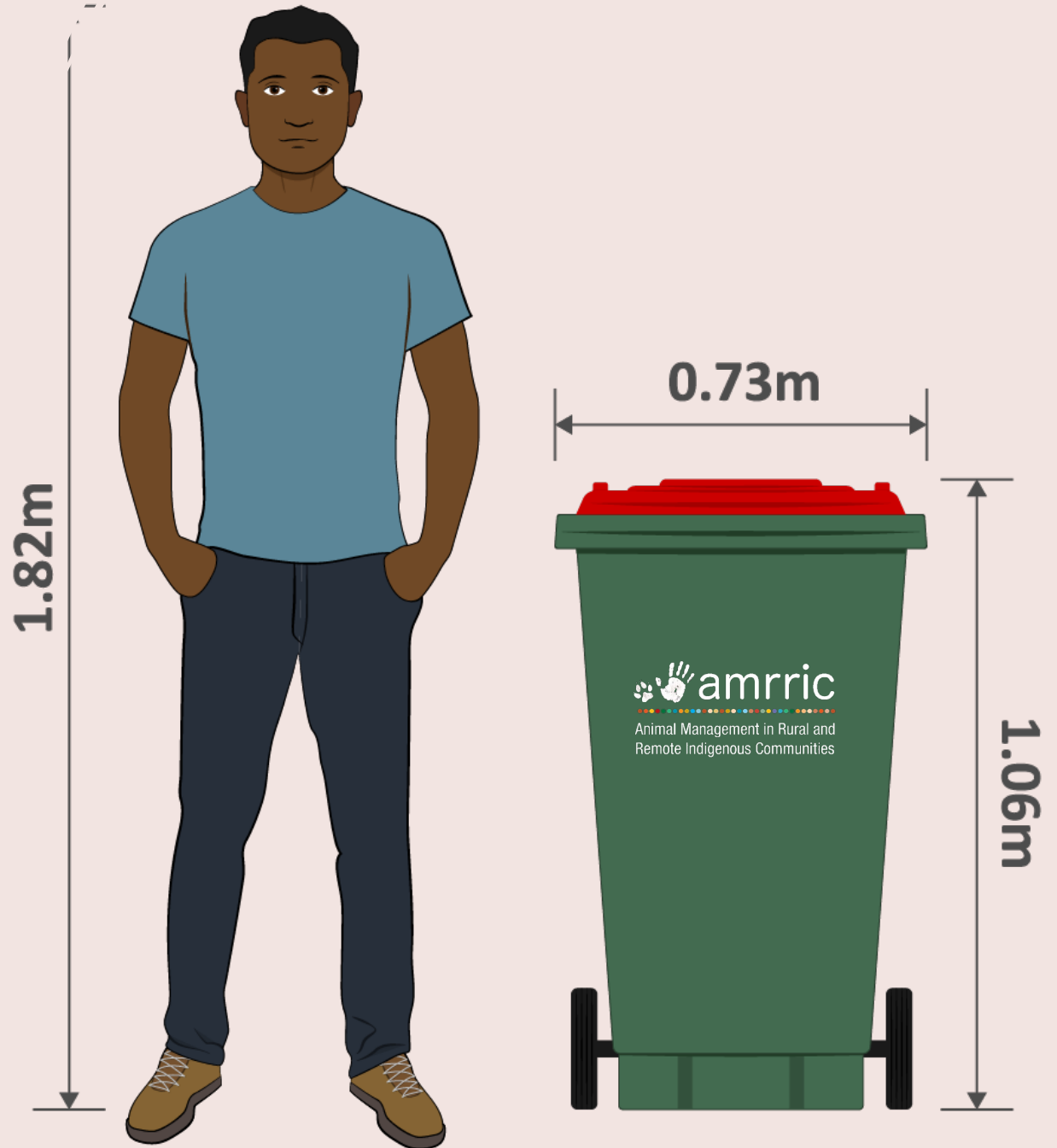
If we give the wrong amount or dose of a medicine, it may not work or it can make animals sick



How do we decide an animal's size?

We can use common objects and people to compare to an animal and help us decide their size

- ✓ This man is 5'10 or 1.82m tall, he is an average or medium height person
- ✓ This wheelie bin is 1m tall, this is a standard bin found outside of most homes



What Size Is That Dog?

Medium Dog

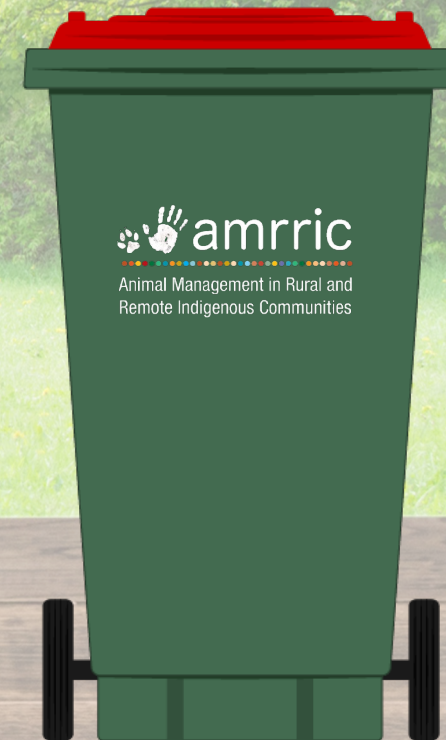
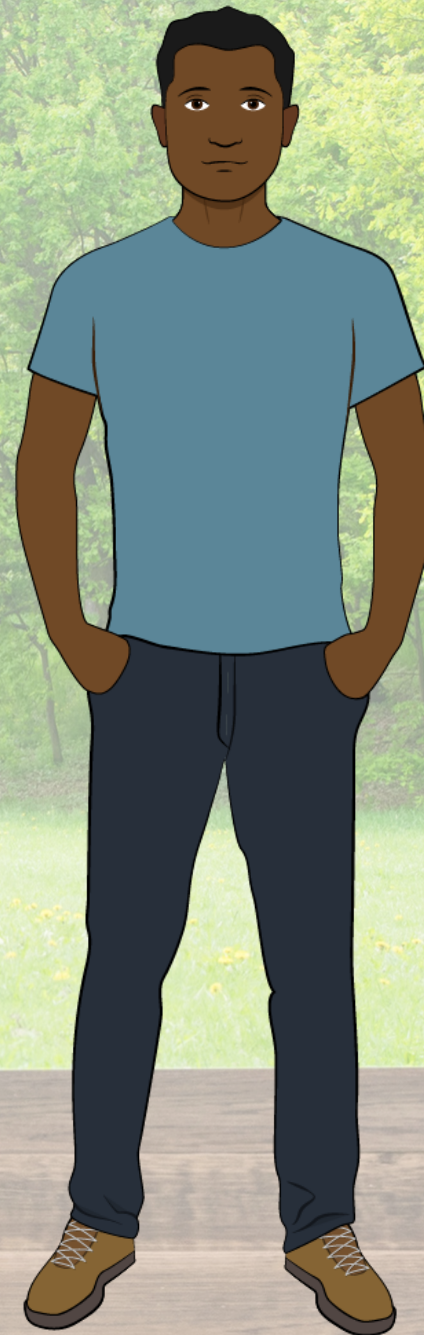
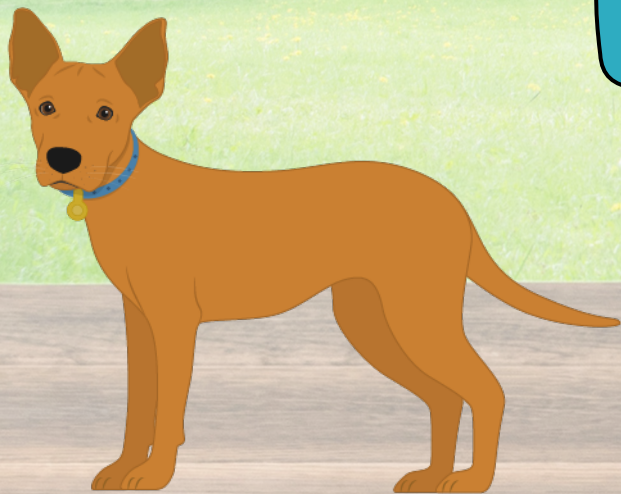
Knee to mid thigh
height
10 - 20 kg

Small Dog

Between ankle &
knee height
5 - 10 kg

Very Small Dog

Ankle height
2 - 5 kg

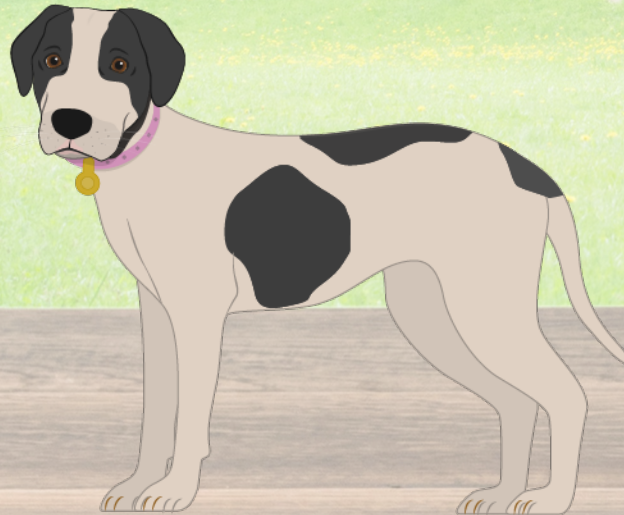


What Size Is That Dog?



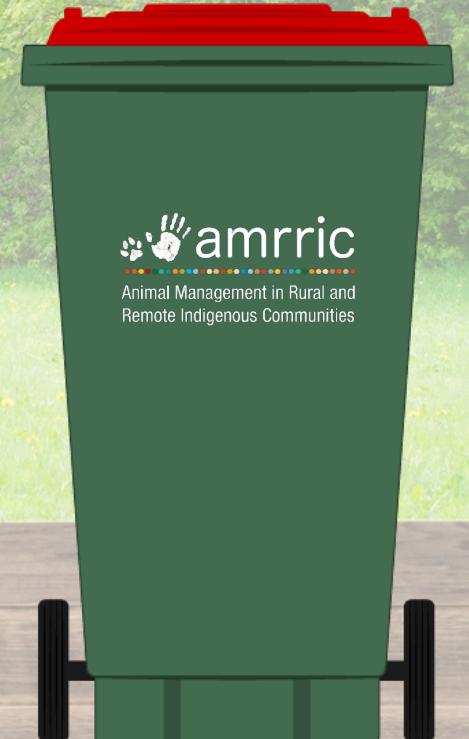
Large Dog

Mid thigh to below hip
height
20 - 30 kg



Extra Large Dog

Upper thigh and above
30 - 50+ kg



Body condition can be hard to see with fluffy or long haired dogs

They can often look bigger or heavier than they are

So, we need to check their body under all the hair



To check their body condition, use your hands to feel their ribs and tummy

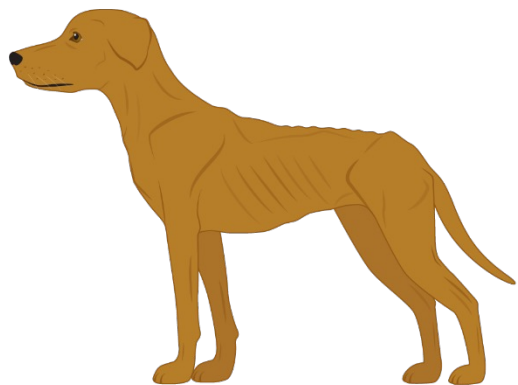
Thin: ribs sticking out and a really tucked in tummy

Ideal: you can feel the ribs but they aren't sticking out, their tummy is flat

Fat: you can't feel the ribs and the tummy is round

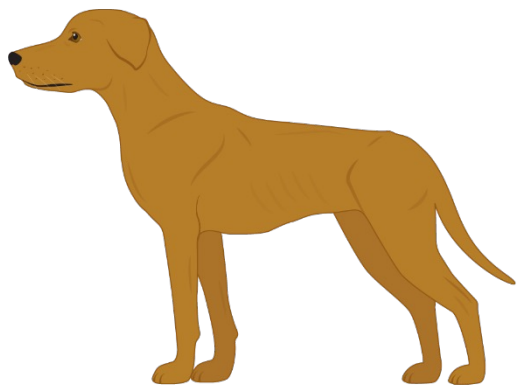


Dog Body Condition



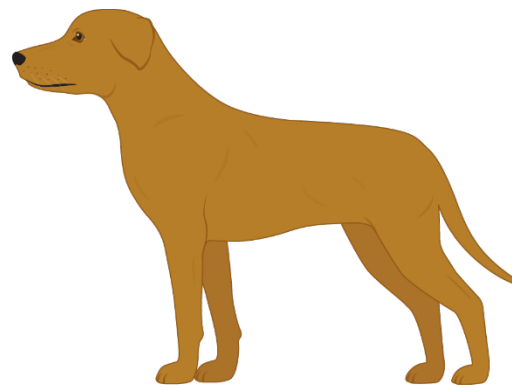
Very Skinny -
Emaciated

Medium Dog



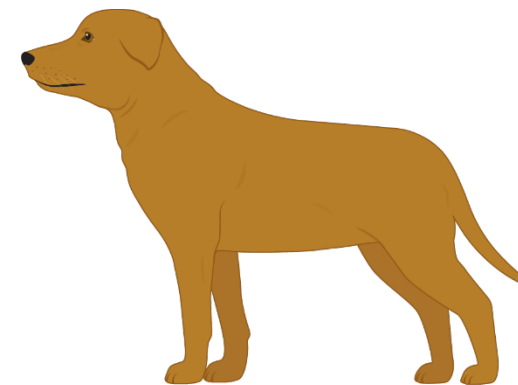
Thin

Medium Dog



Ideal weight

Medium Dog

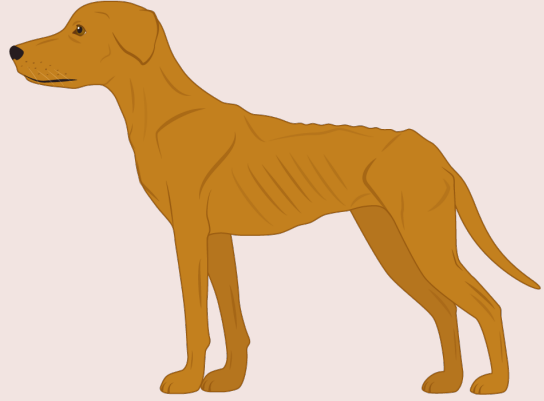
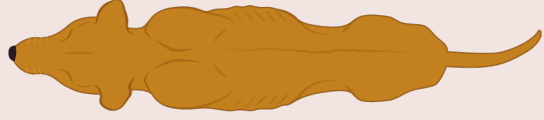


Too fat - Obese

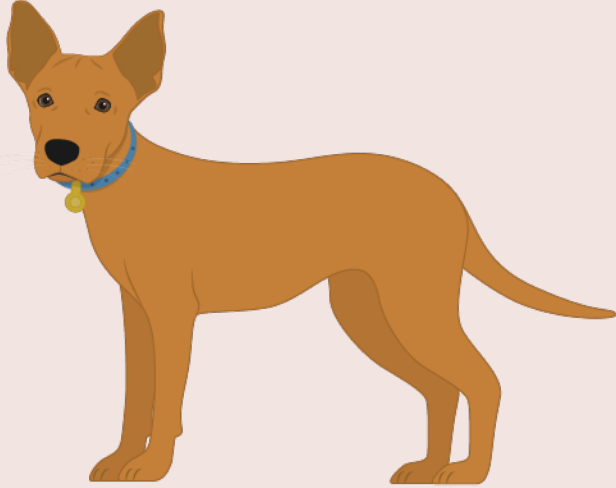
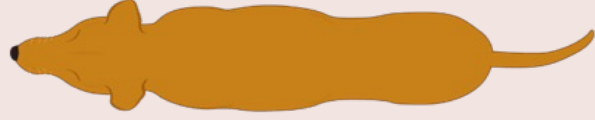
Medium Dog



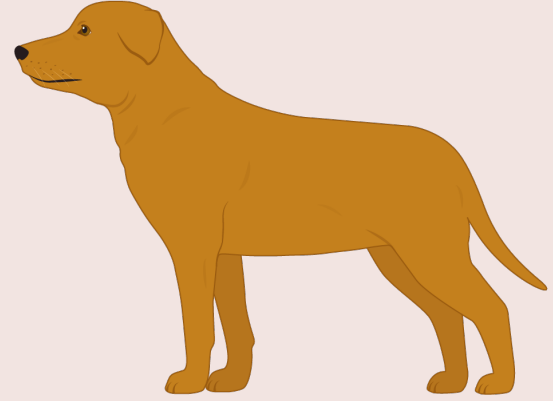
Size & Body Condition



Medium Dog
Thin
~10 kg



Medium Dog
Normal weight
15 kg



Medium Dog
Fat
~20 kg

