

Items that RSPCA Cornwall Branch cannot sell or can only sell with caution

Whilst we appreciate donations of clean, saleable goods for our charity shops, please review the information below and do not donate any items which contravene these guidelines. As a Charity, we are classed as a business and therefore have to pay for disposal of any items we cannot sell, so this impacts on our funds.

Items that we cannot sell in RSPCA Charity shops

- Children's car seats.
- Children's outer coats (below 44cm chest) which are fitted with a drawstring hood. Similarly, a draw-cord in any part of the coat body where the cord extends beyond 4.5ins and without a toggle at the end.
- Children's nightwear unless clearly marked '*flame resistant material*' and the wording '*keep away from fire*'.
- Crash helmets, cycle helmets, protective headgear or riding hats.
- Firearms, including realistic imitations.
- Fireworks.
- Furniture and furnishings that do not meet the standard of fire resistance laid down under the Furniture and Furnishings (Fire) (Safety) Regulations of 1988, and have the fire test label attached. This includes arm-chairs, sofas, mattresses, pillows, cushions, padded headboards and any type of upholstered furniture.
- Heaters, gas or paraffin.
- Medicines or medication.
- Merchandise produced and branded by other charities for their own fundraising, including donated pin badges, T shirts and mugs. Ideally return them to the charity they came from.
- Electric blankets.
- Spectacles with prescription lenses.
- Prams and pushchairs that do not conform to BS 7409 or BS EN 1888:2003.
- Tables, cabinets, bookcases etc with glass that does not have toughened safety glass evident by engraving or similar of the safety glass kitemark.
- Toys (including home-made) without CE mark.
- Weapons including knives that could be used as an offensive weapon.
- Wines and spirits.
- Foodstuffs on a regular basis or that are unpackaged and require weighing and handling.
- Home recorded DVDs, videos, CDs and tapes that contain copyright material.
- DVDs, videos or games which do not bear the BBFC logo or have their original packaging showing age certification. Any DVD with cert R18 rating.
- Counterfeit or fake goods. We cannot sell even if labelled as '*fake*' as this is still considered selling counterfeit goods in the eyes of the law.

Also see the "*items we cannot sell because we love animals*" section below.

Other items that we may sell with caution

- Electrical appliances need to be PAT tested by a qualified person and recorded in an electrical register kept on the premises. As this service is not currently available to us, we cannot accept electrical goods.
- Bicycles must have the relevant BS number; various components will each be manufactured to a standard. All bicycles must be safe and roadworthy and we reserve the right to decline any bikes donated if they cannot be tested for safety.
- Pierced earrings only if they have been sterilised in a suitable solution, such as Milton, for up to 4 hours.
- Toys only if they bear the relevant CE mark or BS safety number and are fully inspected for safety. Toys and games with small parts must be displayed with the notice '*Not suitable for children below the age of 4*'. Toys that would have had a CE mark on the packaging and are of a well-known brand, such as Tomy, Boots, Mothercare, Fisher Price are acceptable, so long as they are clean and undamaged.
- Fancy dress costumes must have a CE mark.
- Knitting Needles.
- Skates, Roller Blades, Cycles and Skateboards must carry the warning '*To be used with protective equipment*'.
- Computer Games must have original packaging showing age classification.
- Candles, only if they are new, have not been partially used and contain a safety warning.

Home-made toys

All toys must comply with the Toy (Safety) Regulations 1995. 'Toy Safety, Guidance notes on UK Regulations' are available from [local Trading Standards Office](#), which gives guidelines on establishing and recording the standards of manufacture needed to ensure compliance with the Regulations.

The Hallmarking Act 1973 (as amended)

As there are specific rules we need to comply with in order to sell Hallmarked jewellery, we are unable to accept gold, silver and platinum items.

Items we cannot sell because we love animals

The RSPCA do not sell any of the below items. If in doubt, we reserve the right to refuse items which may fall within this category.

- Shells, objects and ornaments designed from shells, coral, crabs, sea urchins, starfish and seahorses.
- Food products produced from farm animals that are not RSPCA Assured, free-range or organic.
- Products that condone/support/trivialise activities the Society is opposed to. This includes:
 - Items depicting hunting scenes, bullfights, bird shooting, dog/cock fighting, trapping etc, including books
 - Objects condoning the keeping of certain exotic species as pets (eg primates), wild animals in circuses, captive whales, dolphins and porpoises.
- Any trap or other product associated with wildlife management or control, or removal of wild animals from the wild, eg glue traps.
- Clothing, accessories and art that use animal products that do not meet our ethical production requirements:
 - Real fur.
 - Exotic skins, eg crocodile, alligator, snake, or shagreen (stingray skin).
 - Ivory.
 - Feathers or down, including down filled jackets, cushions, pillows and duvets as well as feathers on hats, dream catchers and accessories.
 - Taxidermy or decorative art that uses animal products (eg feathers), including invertebrates (eg insects and butterflies), and fish.
 - Angora.
- Products whose production has a significant impact on the environment (eg pearl farming, shellac, palm oil etc).
- Cosmetics or household products from companies which are not certified under the Leaping Bunny Certification Programme – see www.leapingbunny.org.
- Animal accommodation, including hutches, runs, nest boxes, cages and tanks, that does not meet RSPCA standards for that species.
- Choke chains, pinch/prong collars, electric shock collars, spray collars, other aversive training equipment (eg 'pet corrector' type products).
- Elastic cat collars, ie those without a quick release fastening (snap-safe buckle).
- Muesli-style food for rabbits/guinea pigs.
- Dog training books, videos etc, which promote aversive training/dominance theory, eg Cesar Millan (The Dog Whisperer) books.
- Clothes for dressing up pets eg fancy dress costumes for pets.
- Muzzles other than baskerville type muzzles.
- Jerky treats (originating from China).
- Nesting materials for small animals that separate into thin strands, eg cotton wool or similar 'fluffy' bedding products.
- 'Reindeer food' products which contain glitter - these are designed to be sprinkled in gardens at Christmas and glitter can be harmful to wildlife.
- Sky lanterns, also called Chinese lanterns.