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## Prohibition of cruelty and abandonment

Cruelty and abandonment of protected animals are crimes. People who commit such acts shall be subject to imprisonment with work or a fine.

A person who has destroyed or injured, without reason, a protected animal

**Imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than 1 million yen**

A person who has committed on a protected animal cruelty such as causing debilitation by discontinuing feeding and or watering without reason

**Fine of not more than 500,000 yen**

A person who has abandoned a protected animal

**Fine of not more than 500,000 yen**

### What is a "protected animal"?

- All of the following animals, regardless of whether they are owned or not: Cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, dogs, cats, domestic rabbits, chickens, domestic pigeons, and domestic ducks
- Animals categorized as "mammals, birds, or reptiles" that are kept by people.



## Prohibition of cruelty

**Animal cruelty** = Behavior that causes animals to suffer unnecessarily

Animal cruelty refers to behavior that causes animals to suffer unnecessarily. It includes not only behavior that is intended to kill or injure animals without a justifiable reason, but also such neglectful behavior as failing to provide necessary care, treatment for illness or disease, or adequate food and water.