

Effat University Repository

Requirements and Specifications of Pets Care Centers: An Interior Design Perspective

Authors	Abdelrazik, Ahmed;Saleh, Shahd
Citation	Ahmed M. Abdelrazik, Shahd Saleh, 2026. "Requirements and Specifications of Pets Care Centers: An Interior Design Perspective", Design and Architecture for Sustainable, Resilient, and User-Friendly Cities and Interiors, Anna Visvizi, Asmaa Ibrahim, Sajid Khalifa
DOI	https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-80592-369-520261007
Publisher	Emerald
Rights	CC0 1.0 Universal
Download date	2026-05-16 10:43:33
Item License	http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/
Link to Item	https://repository.effatuniversity.edu.sa/handle/20.500.14131/2648

Requirements and Specifications of Pets Care Centers: Interior Design Case Study

Dr. Ahmed M. Abdelrazik

Assistant Professor

Design Department, College of Architecture and Design, Effat University, KSA

Interior Design and Furniture Department, Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University, Egypt

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4724-776X>

aabdelrazik@effatuniversity.edu.sa

ahmed-abdelrazik@a-arts.helwan.edu.eg

abdelrazik2005@yahoo.com

Shahd Saleh

Senior student, Design Department, College of Architecture and Design, Effat University, KSA

shhsaleh@effat.edu.sa

Abstract:

Saudi Arabia, renowned for its rich cultural heritage and rapid modernization, has experienced significant lifestyle transformations in recent decades. Among these changes is the growing trend of pet ownership, leading to a rising demand for services and facilities that cater to the well-being of pets. Despite this, many Arabian societies face a notable shortage of essential services like pet daycare, particularly for cats and dogs.

Pet daycare facilities, where pets can be entrusted to professional carers for a specified period, offer a practical solution to this pressing need. These facilities provide secure, well-designed interior spaces that allow pets to socialize, play, and thrive under supervision. Key features often include soft play areas, pet-friendly furniture, toys, and materials that ensure a safe and engaging environment.

This paper aims to explore and define the interior design requirements, facilities, activities, space planning, material selection, furniture, accessories, and color schemes necessary for creating optimal pet daycare centers. By analyzing exemplary well selected global projects (case studies), this research seeks to formulate comprehensive guidelines that address the unique needs of these essential spaces, contributing to their successful implementation in Saudi Arabia.

Keywords:

Pet ownership, Pet daycare, pets' centers, Pet well-being, interior design, pets care facilities, case study, design requirements.

Introduction:

The demand for specialized care and well-being services for our cherished animal companions has emerged as a critical necessity in the evolving landscape of pet ownership. This in-depth study paper investigates the multidimensional world of pets (specifically cats and dogs), investigating the origins and crucial need for pet daycare facilities in Saudi Arabia.

This paper explores the historical history of animal care institutions, stressing the joint efforts that have formed caring cultures from the genesis of the notion to the complicated architectural considerations according to the Saudi Building Code.

The paper illustrates the shifting environment of pet care, from comprehending the complex viewpoints of pet owners and non-pet owners to underlining the critical function of such facilities in alleviating concerns like pet sadness caused by extended solitude. Furthermore, it underlines the need to combine practicality, safety, and creativity while developing purpose-built pet daycare establishments. It methodically describes critical features, zoning techniques, and programming tables required for efficient operations and optimal pet care, emphasizing the company's dedication to going above and beyond regulatory standards to create a safer and more loving environment.

Indeed, this paper serves as a comprehensive reference, highlighting the cultural, sociological, and health dimensions of pet ownership while emphasizing the critical role of thoughtfully designed interior spaces in enhancing the well-being of pets. It advocates for the creation of purpose-driven facilities tailored to meet the specific needs of animals and their human companions. These interior environments must incorporate essential design elements such as durable, pet-friendly materials, ergonomic furniture, efficient spatial planning, and calming color palettes to ensure functionality, safety, and comfort. The study particularly focuses on addressing the growing demand for such facilities in Saudi Arabia, aiming to set a benchmark for innovative and compassionate design in pet care environments.

History:

Who invented it?

The notion of doggie daycare, as a dedicated facility for dogs to socialize and participate in supervised activities, has no known creator. The concept of providing dog daycare services arose in response to a growing demand from pet owners seeking alternatives to leaving their dogs at home alone for lengthy periods of time (Toby, 2023).

Evolution:

Pet daycare facilities have grown in popularity in recent decades as people's lifestyles have changed and they seek more convenient and humane alternatives for their pets while they are away at work or on vacation. Here's a quick rundown of the history of pet daycare:

- **Early Informal Pet Sitting:** Before the formalization of pet daycare services, owners would frequently rely on friends, family members, or neighbors to care for their pets while they were at work or on vacation. For many years, this informal arrangement has been the norm.

- **Emergence of Kennels:** Kennels appeared in the mid-twentieth century as one of the first commercial options for pet owners looking for care for their dogs. Kennels provided a safe haven for pets whose owners were unable to care for them at home. Kennels, on the other hand, were frequently chastised for their cage-like surroundings and lack of social connection for the pets.
- **Rise of Professional Pet Sitting Services:** Professional pet sitting businesses began to emerge in the 1980s and 1990s as the need for more specialized pet care services increased. These services gave pet owners the option of having their pets cared for in their own homes, decreasing stress and providing the animals with a more familiar setting.
- **The Birth of Pet Daycare:** Pet daycare facilities first appeared in the late twentieth century as a response to the growing number of working professionals who wanted their pets to get care and social interaction during the day. These facilities provided a secure and stimulating environment for pets to play, socialize, and receive care from professional staff.
- **Expansion and Modernization:** The pet daycare sector has grown and modernized in the twenty-first century. Many pet's daycare facilities now provide a variety of services, such as grooming, training, and even specific activities for certain breeds and sizes. Some facilities include webcams that allow owners to monitor their dogs remotely.
- **Regulation and Certification:** Increased regulation and accreditation criteria have also been implemented in the pet daycare business to safeguard the well-being and safety of pets in these facilities. Some organizations, such as the International Boarding and Pet Services Association (IBPSA), have been formed to define industry standards as well as to educate and train pet care workers.
- **Technological Advances:** The modern pet daycare industry has benefited greatly from technological advancements. Many facilities employ software and applications to schedule appointments, manage client information, and even remotely watch dogs. This has improved both the client experience and the efficiency of pet daycare operations (Lamkahouan, 2019).

Military Dogs:

The United States maintained an unofficial canine combat force during World War I, but military canines were not formally acknowledged until March 13, 1942, when a private group called canines for Defense was formed to recruit dogs from the public for the United States military's War Dog Program, known as the K-9 Corps (Green, 2022).

The new rehabilitation facility has better flooring and lighting to safeguard post-operative patients and reduce their stress. Manual therapy is conducted in a dedicated, quiet chamber for canine patients. A wider exercise area enables the deployment of equipment in different configurations to personalize training regimens and challenge levels for each patient. A jetted pool and two underwater treadmills are also part of the new facility's aquatic treatment space. The Holland Military Working Dog facility's design enhancements enable greater access for MWD patients directly from the facility to the larger kennels. The kennel expansion includes 22 more runs. These runs enable veterinary staff to keep a closer eye on hospitalized rehabilitative and surgery patients.

"All of these improvements are a significant step in improving care for these working animals and getting them back to duty as quickly as possible," (Torrington, 2018).

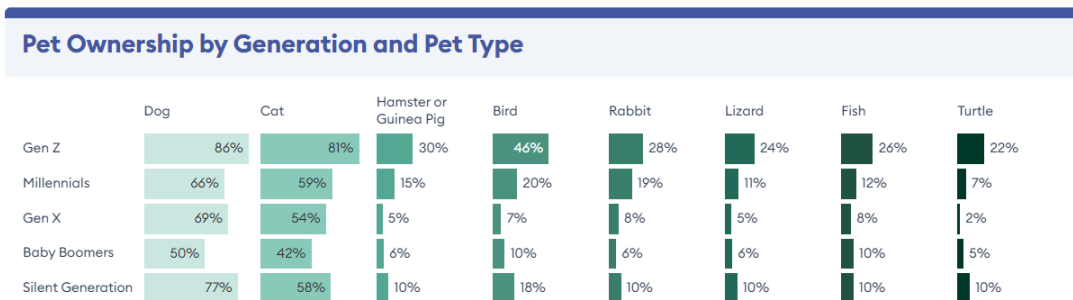
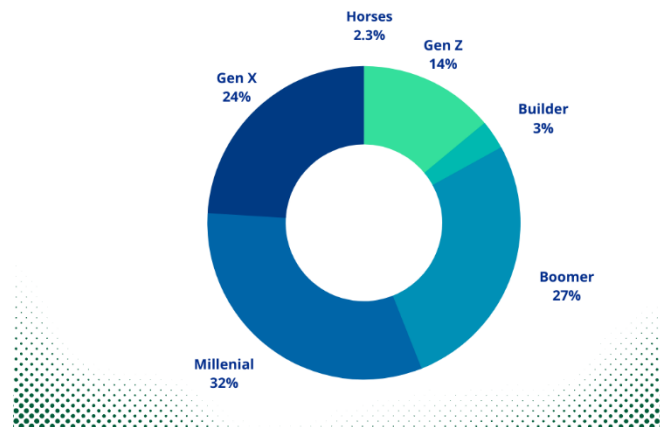
Pet Ownership:

Recently, there are many studies about the increment of pets' ownership, Figure 13.1 showed that Millennials have the highest rate of pet ownership (32%), followed by Baby Boomers (27%), Gen X (24%), and Gen Z (14%), according to the APPA. However, the APPA anticipates that as Gen Z becomes adults over the next few years, their ownership will progressively increase.

APPA also discovered: Millennials and Generation Z saw the greatest growth in pet ownership during COVID-19, with Generation Z fostering the most animals. In terms of small pet ownership, Gen Z outnumbers the previous generations and owns the most fish, birds, reptiles, and horses. The social and emotional benefits of owning a pet are more likely to be recognized by Baby Boomers and Generation X (Kerwin, 2022).

Millennials have the highest percentage of pet owners in the United States, according to pet ownership statistics: Millennials account for the highest proportion of current pet owners (33%), followed by Generation X (25%), and Baby Boomers (24%). Pet owners in Generation Z (ages 18 to 25) are significantly more likely than other age groups to keep a range of animals. Pet owners in Generation X (ages 42 to 57) are the least likely to possess pets other than cats and dogs, such as hamsters, birds, and fish (Megna, 2023).

Pet ownership by generation



Figures 13.1 & 13.2: Pet ownership and pet types (source: Dutton, 2022)

APPA examined numerous facets of personal attitudes regarding pet product purchasing, including brand loyalty, spending, and new product awareness. According to the APPA, 57% of Gen X, 54% of

Millennials, 52% of Gen Z, and 48% of Baby Boomers believe themselves to be brand loyal. Gen Z and Millennials are more inclined to buy a variety of products, including various types of pet food, treats, and toys, but Baby Boomers and Gen X are more likely to keep their long-held pet care attitudes and behaviors (Kerwin, 2022).

APPA discovered that 33% of Millennials and 31% of Gen Z pet owners intend to spend less money on pet food, whereas only 18% of Gen X and 8% of Baby Boomers intend to spend less. In terms of general new product awareness, Millennials and Gen Z are more likely to discover a new product via the internet or social media, whereas Baby Boomers and Gen X are more likely to discover a new product when browsing in-store. Kerwin (2022) clarified that when it comes to companies about new pet goods online, Gen Z prefers YouTube, while Millennials and Gen X choose Facebook and Baby Boomers prefer company or retail websites.

Service Dogs:

A service dog enables a disabled person to live a more independent life. A service dog, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), is "a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability." The ADA defines "disability" as a physical or mental impairment that significantly limits one or more major life activities, including those with a history of such an impairment and those considered by others to have such an impairment. The ADA outlaw's disability discrimination in the workplace, state and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation, and telecommunications.

They are hearing dogs assist deaf and hard-of-hearing people by alerting them to critical sounds. Mobility dogs help those who use wheelchairs or walking aids or who have balance concerns. Medical alert dogs may also inform the user of the presence of allergies, mark the onset of a medical concern such as a seizure or low blood sugar, and perform various other activities. Psychiatric service dogs help people with disabilities such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, and other mental illnesses. Entering a dark room and turning on a light to aid with a stress-inducing condition, interrupting an individual's repetitive behaviors, and reminding a person to take medication are all examples of work performed by psychiatric service dogs (Karetnick, 2023).

Pets in Saudi Arabia:

Most owners agree that having a pet has made their lives richer. "Having a cat makes my day happy, especially with her funny actions," said Hana Al-Ghamdi, 25, who has had cat pets since the age of five. Adoption culture has been one of the most serious issues that Saudis have been raising awareness about. Adopting an animal from the streets or a shelter home can improve a homeless animal's life forever. Some animal lovers prefer to adopt rather than purchase pets from breeders or pet retailers.

One of the primary problems for animal enthusiasts and owners is the lack of official animal shelters in the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia desperately needs a shelter for stray, lost, abandoned, or injured animals. Some animal lovers have formed organizations with the goal of assisting and rescuing lost animals. "It is a disappointment when you try to do some rescuing, individually and sometimes with small groups," Mullah said. "We don't have resources," he added, adding that the procedure will require some fundraising from the government, businesses, and individuals (Person, 2018).

Those who desire to work and live in Saudi Arabia and want to bring their pets should follow the rules outlined below:

- Provide a permit from the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture to bring in the applicant's pet(s).
- Obtain a certificate of veterinary health. The certificate must state that the pet has been inspected, vaccinated against all possible illnesses, and is in excellent health.
- The State Department Authentication Division must authenticate the health certificate.
- Document costs are \$8.75 per page. The payment must be made using the Enjaz website.
- The Consular Section of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Embassy in the United States of America must certify the health certificate.
- Dogs entering Saudi Arabia must fit into one of the following categories:
 - seeing-eye dogs for hunting.
 - Exotic and non-domestic animals are not allowed into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia unless they are employed for legitimate government reasons.
 - Dangerous and dangerous canines, such as Rottweilers and Pit Bulls, are never allowed into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In 2023, the Saudi Arabian pet industry experienced significant growth (figure 13.3), driven in part by government initiatives aimed at expanding opportunities within the sector. With a population of 32.2 million, 63% of whom are under the age of 30, the country has seen a notable rise in pet ownership in recent years. This demographic shift, coupled with evolving lifestyles, has contributed to increased demand for pet-related products and services. According to Euromonitor, the Saudi pet care market was valued at \$89.7 million (€80.5 million) in 2020 and surged to \$137.7 million (€123.6 million) by 2023, an impressive increase of over 50% in just three years.

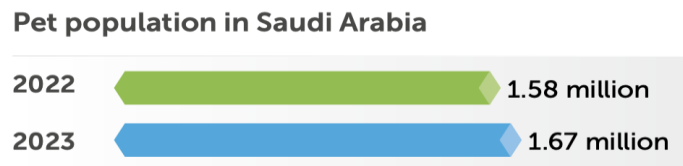


Figure 13.3: Pet population in Saudi Arabia (source: Euromonitor International, 2023)

More vets:

This assistance is also beneficial to veterinary clinics. There are reported to be more than 100 clinics nationally, up from 10 a few years ago. This is due in part to the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture's assistance in establishing vet clinics and installing the necessary equipment. Al Roumi's firm, which distributes pet items and equipment, has also experienced a rise in the number of clients who own a veterinary clinic (2023).

Low-cost production facilities:

The Saudi Vision 2030, a transformative strategic framework aimed at diversifying the economy and elevating the Kingdom's global standing, is being actively implemented by the government. As part of these visionary efforts, notable progress has been achieved in the pet care industry. Over the past two years, with strong support from Riyadh officials, five new pet food production facilities, owned by Saudi corporations, have been established in the country's central region.

“They have the government’s full support from start to finish, including access to land, expertise, and the necessary machinery,” highlighting the extensive and comprehensive backing provided to these initiatives.

Calysseo, a joint venture formed by Calysta and Adisseo, and business and project development firm Food Caravan announced a new cooperation in early 2017 to establish a 100,000-ton capacity fermenter in Saudi Arabia to create Calysta's unique protein ingredients (2023).

Pets and health:

Positive aspects

Indeed, having a pet brings numerous positive benefits that extend to physical, emotional, and social well-being. Pets provide companionship, reducing feelings of loneliness and fostering a sense of connection and responsibility. Studies have shown that interacting with pets can lower stress levels, reduce blood pressure, and improve overall mental health. Pets also encourage physical activity, whether through daily walks, playtime, or simply keeping their owners active and engaged. On a social level, owning a pet can help individuals form connections with others, as pets often serve as conversation starters and a bridge to build friendships within communities.

Moreover, caring for a pet instills a sense of routine and purpose, enriching their owner’s daily life. Whether it’s the unconditional love of a dog, the calming presence of a cat, or the vibrant energy of smaller animals, pets undeniably add joy and positivity to our lives.

For Skerrett (2015), *Get Healthy, Get a Dog* delves into the numerous direct physical and mental health advantages of owning a dog. Increased physical activity can help you lose or maintain weight, as can decrease blood pressure and stress. According to this study, when a dog owner stared into the eyes of his/her pet, levels of oxytocin, the so-called "love hormone," increasing in both the owner and the pet. This serves to strengthen their friendship even further.

Increased Physical Fitness: Robinson (2023) highlighted that having a pet can improve your physical activity by requiring you to go outside regularly or take walks with your animal. Dog walking has also been demonstrated to promote and sustain physical activity participation. Large dog owners walk their dogs more than small dog owners and older pet owners have discovered that they can carry out daily activities for longer.

Lower Blood Pressure: Having a pet is thought to lower blood pressure, particularly in high-risk or hypertensive individuals. One study discovered that pet owners had a higher one-year survival rate after being discharged from a coronary care unit; another found that subjects had lower blood pressure and heart rates in situations of acute mental stress if their pet was present; and a third suggests that cat owners are 30% less likely to have a heart attack and 40% less likely to have a stroke.

Lowering Stress & Anxiety: When humans and their dogs engage, both experience heightened levels of oxytocin (a hormone that is also triggered by behaviors such as cuddling) (8). Oxytocin regulates the brain's ability to embrace social attributes including empathy, trust, and recollection of social cues, such as letting you know when you should seek consolation from others. It also works cross-species: in a real-time investigation, dog owners saw an average oxytocin rise of 6.6% after scratching and petting their pets (9). Contact with pet dogs also resulted in a drop in cortisol levels in humans, a hormonal alarm mechanism for stress (2023).

Simple hobbies like watching the smooth movements of a swimming fish can help increase tranquility. People who use pet therapy while recovering from surgery take less pain medication than those who do not have a pet.

Losing weight: Several studies have connected dog ownership to weight loss: A year-long study at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Wellness Institute in Chicago discovered that walking an overweight dog helped both the animals and their owners shed excessive pounds. The dogs aided in ways like a human exercise buddy, but with more regularity and without any negative influence, according to the researchers. Another study conducted by the Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction discovered that residents of public housing who walked therapy dogs for up to 20 minutes five days a week dropped 14.4 pounds in a year without changing their diets (Robinson, 2023).

Negative aspects

Some writers have argued that non-psychological aspects of the pet have a detrimental influence, such as decreased psychological well-being, depression, and anxiety compared to non-Pet Owners (NPOs). Furthermore, pet owners (POs) had a lower sense of health and a higher prevalence of disease than non-pet owners (NPOs) of various ages, which may contribute to a lower quality of life in certain scenarios like the COVID-19 pandemic. Although several studies have noted this trend, Mueller et al. suggested that POs may have adopted the pet to help them cope with depressive symptoms or other mental problems they were already experiencing (Martins et al., 2023).

Health Risks: Zoonotic diseases: potential for infectious agent transmission from companion animals to people (e.g., dermatophytosis, toxoplasmosis, toxocariasis, echinococcus, giardia) (The Royal Australian College of general Practitioners).

Allergies: Many people have animal allergies (The Royal Australian College of general Practitioners).

Mammalian bites: bites are exceedingly prevalent (85-90% from dogs): the dog is usually familiar to the victim (family dog or neighbor), and the assault happens within the victim's own house (The Royal Australian College of general Practitioners).

Case Study (1): Pet Resource Center

(Veterinary Clinic, Animal Shelter)

Location: Bentonville, United States

Architects: RA-DA

Area: 20000 ft²

Year: 2023

Manufacturers: Accoya, Carl Stahl, AD Systems, Ameristar, Daltile, Euroflex, Forbo, Goric Playgrounds, Hanover, Kawneer, Kingspan Light + Air, Marlite, PacClad, Shaw Flooring, Tarkett / Johnsonite, USG, Wilsonart

Structural Engineers: Harrison French & Associates

Civil Engineers: Harrison French & Associates

Landscape Architect: Harrison French & Associates



Figure 13.4: Pet Resource Center side view
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

RA-DA's approach to a Pet Resource Center in Bentonville, Arkansas, integrating a veterinarian clinic and animal shelter, will most likely require a deliberate design that merges practicality, aesthetics, and sustainability.

Location Analysis: The demographic and geographic factors of Bentonville would be assessed to ensure its inhabitants' accessibility. Given the city's weather patterns, building design may prioritize climate management for animal welfare. The orientation of the site could optimize natural light exposure, resulting in energy efficiency and a pleasant environment. Instead of being hidden on the outskirts of town, this structure is centrally positioned, highly visible, and accessible to everybody. It has a medical clinic for passing through animals as well as local rescues, a community center with events for residents, and a support center for all foster parents and animals. Knitting with Kittens, Foster Fridays, and Adoption Saturdays/maintain them engaged in the community and serve as a model for future centers across the world.



Figure 13.5: Front view of the place shows the outside design
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Animal Shelter: An emphasis on providing a loving environment for rescued animals awaiting adoption. Design elements that encourage sociability, exercise places, and suitable living environments for animals are all included. Integration of areas for potential adopters to engage with the animals in a safe setting.



Figure 13.6: Inside image that shows the animal shelter sustainability in design
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Sustainability and innovation: RA-DA may use green building materials and energy-efficient technologies as part of its sustainable design processes. Innovative elements, such as interactive technology for educating visitors about pet care and adoption procedures, might be included.

Community Integration: Collaboration with local animal welfare groups or educational institutions for outreach activities and community involvement is referred to as community integration. Partnerships with local companies or veterinarians to provide full pet care services are possible. The design of RA-DA would most likely try to create a harmonious environment that not only satisfies the practical demands of a veterinary clinic and animal shelter but also resonates with the values of the local community, positively contributing to the wellbeing of animals and their future owners.



Figure 13.7: Image of the vet clinic (source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Zoning Study with Percentages:

- Veterinary Clinic: 30%
- Animal Shelter: 40%
- Adoption/Rehoming: 15%
- Education/Training: 10%
- Administrative: 5%

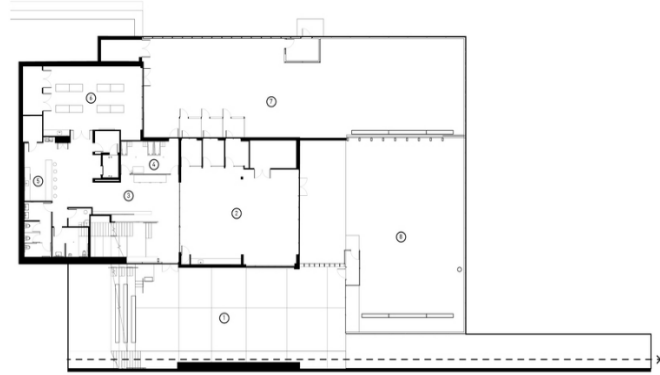


Figure 13.8: Lower Floor level - out of scale
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Zoning Analysis:

Allotment within the Center: Given the emphasis on animal care and adoption, the shelter may take up the majority of the Pet Resource Center's space allotment.

Compliance with Zoning restrictions: RA-DA followed local zoning restrictions regulating allowed site use for animal shelters inside mixed-use or commercial zones.

Zoning Considerations: Allowances for the shelter to operate within specified zoning districts may be made to ensure compliance with nearby land uses and community requirements.

Separated but accessible: A zoning layout that allows people to readily reach the shelter while keeping it apart from other places (such as the veterinary clinic) to reduce stress on sheltered animals (Figures 13.8 & 13.9).

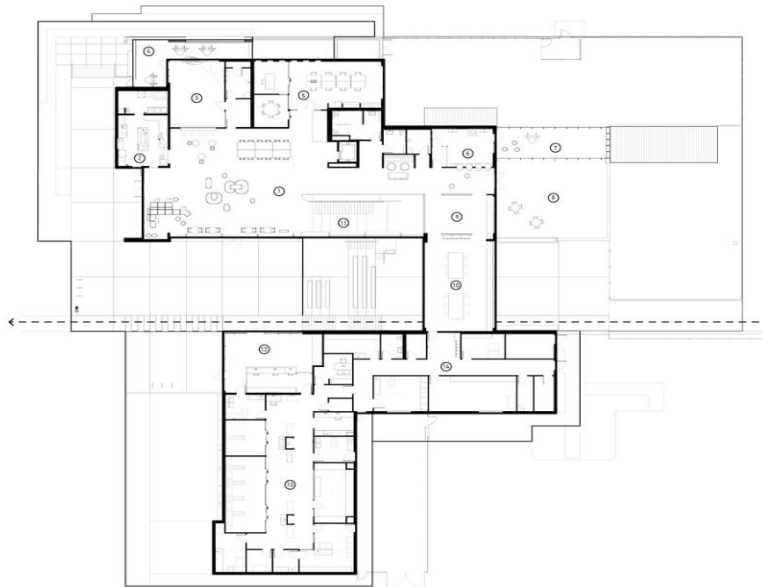


Figure 13.9: Upper Floor level - out of scale
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Shelter Plan:

Layout & Design: RA-DA emphasized a large, well-ventilated shelter with separate spaces for different animal species (dogs, cats, and small animals).

Socialization Spaces: Consideration should be given to common spaces where animals may mingle, play, and engage with possible adopters or volunteers.

Comfortable Living Quarters: Individual cages or rooms meant to offer comfort, safety, and stimulation for animals waiting to be adopted.

Adoption Zones: Thoughtful design elements that encourage adoptions by allowing for supervised interaction between potential adopters and animals.

Programming:

Table 13.1 provides a basic overview of functional zones, their associated users, necessary space allocation, and things required to equip each area within RA-DA's envisioned Pet Resource Center. Specific products and space distribution may vary depending on design preferences, legislation, and the anticipated scale and functions of the center.

Zone	Function	User	Space (m²)	Items Needed
Reception/Waiting	Welcome, Check-in	Pet Owners, Visitors	40	Reception Desk, Seating, Information Displays
Veterinary Clinic	Medical Care	Pet Owners, Staff	150	Examination Rooms, Surgery, Lab Equipment
Animal Shelter	Housing, Adoption	Animals, Visitors	300	Enclosures/Cages, Adoption Rooms, Play Areas
Grooming/Spa	Grooming Services	Pet Owners, Staff	80	Grooming Stations, Wash Basins, Drying Areas
Education/Training	Workshops, Classes	Pet Owners, Staff	70	Classroom Space, Interactive Displays
Administrative	Office, Management	Staff	60	Offices, Meeting Rooms, Storage Areas
Outdoor Area	Exercise, Play	Animals, Visitors	200	Fenced Play Areas, Walking Paths
Support Spaces	Restrooms, Utility	Staff, Visitors	100	Restrooms, Storage, Utility Rooms
TOTAL			1000	

Table 13.1: Programming table – Case study 1 (source: created by the authors)

Number of Users, Departments, or Sections:

- Users include pet owners looking for veterinary treatment, adoption services, instructional courses, and animal care volunteers.
- Veterinary clinics, animal shelter living spaces, adoption/rehoming space, education/training rooms, administrative offices are among the departments/sections.

Interiors Analysis:

Designing interiors for pet care facilities involves creating a harmonious environment that balances functionality, durability, and comfort, catering to the needs of both animals and their human caregivers (Figure 13.10).

Design Idea/Concept: Create a welcoming, pet-friendly environment that promotes animal well-being as well as human comfort.

Style: Modern utility combined with characteristics that inspire warmth and confidence for both animals and people.

Circulation: To decrease stress on animals, separate locations for various activities. Pathways for tourists and personnel are well established.

Elements: Elements used include long-lasting, easy-to-clean materials such as vinyl or epoxy flooring, stainless steel fixtures, comfy pet-friendly furniture, and non-toxic paints.

Lighting: Plenty of natural light combined with mild, calming artificial lighting to create a relaxing atmosphere.

Colors: Neutral and tranquil tones for a pleasant atmosphere, with vibrant splashes of color in appropriate spots.

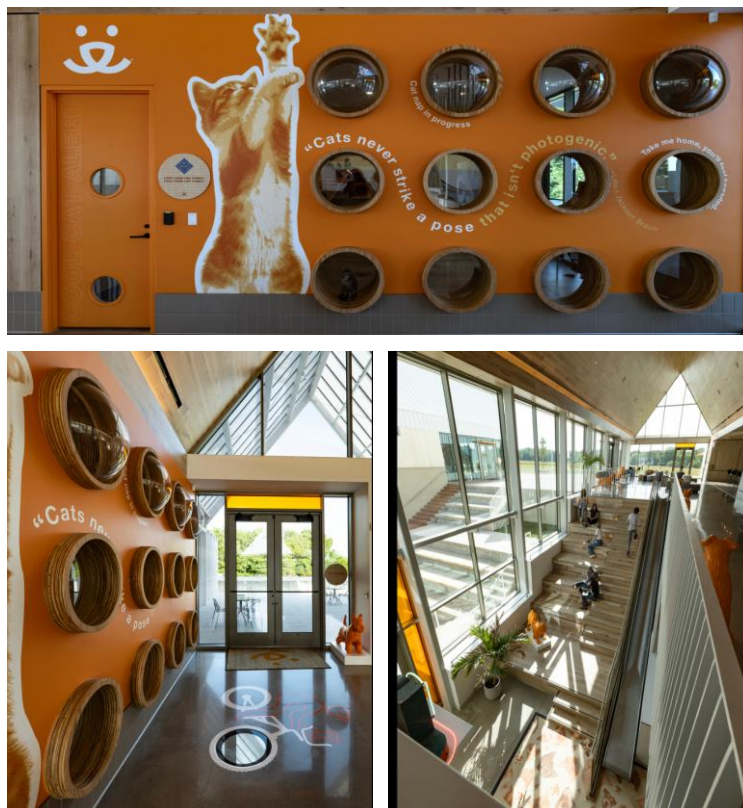


Figure 13.10: Different interior spaces showing interior materials, finishes, and colors. (source: Search. ArchDaily - Pet Resource Center website)

Positives and Negatives:

Through the study of the project plans and analysis drawings and images, it is vital to brief the most positive and negative aspects as the following ...

Positives:

Access to comprehensive pet services is centralized, supporting responsible pet ownership. Adoption and educational programs provide opportunities for community involvement. Collaboration with local animal welfare organizations and veterinarians for holistic pet care is a possibility.

Negatives:

High initial investment expenditures for building and facilities, as well as continuous operational costs. Potential difficulties in regulating noise levels and animal discomfort in a shared setting. Adherence to tight zoning restrictions and securing required approvals may provide challenges.

So, to construct a successful and sustainable Pet Resource Center in Bentonville, it will be critical to balance utility, aesthetics, and regulatory compliance. Prioritizing animal welfare and establishing a friendly environment for visitors while addressing operational problems will be critical to its success.

Overall, RA-DA's design for the animal shelter within the Pet Resource Center would likely prioritize the well-being of animals while also considering the community's role in adoption and animal care. Their approach might incorporate innovative design elements and community engagement strategies to create a space that supports both animals and potential adopters in a holistic manner.

Case Study 2: Pako Street Animal Social Life Campus
(Wellbeing, and Animal Shelter).

Figure 13.11: Pako Animal Social Life Campus
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pako Street Animal website)

Architects: Mert Uslu Architecture
Area: 29916 m²
Year: 2022
Manufacturers: Daikin, EGE, Kale, Novawood, Weber
Structural Engineering: Deniz Alkan Engineering
Mechanical Engineering: Project BTU
Electrical Engineering: Ayc Engineering.

In Turkey, stray animal practices are generally centered on giving much-needed care to abandoned, injured, ill, crippled, or poor animals with the goal of releasing these creatures back into their natural habitats at the completion of their treatment. The facility is on a 110.000 m² plot in the Gökdere area of the town of Bornova in Izmir, with the spatial layout of the open and closed spaces concentrating on the contact between humans and dogs while underlining the concept of adoption.

This facility, the first of its kind, was designed not only as a temporary care center but also as a rehabilitation center based on the interaction between humans and dogs, providing a space that promotes the idea of reciprocal rehabilitation and can be seen as an alternative space for families to spend quality time and reinforces human-dog interaction.



Figure 13.12: Top view of the campus
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pako Street Animal website)

Location Analysis: In its site investigation (Figure 13.12), the Pako Street Animal Social Life Campus thoroughly evaluates the peculiarities of the urban setting. It promotes accessibility for both pets and owners, aiming for close proximity to public transit and plenty of parking.

The orientation and design focus on maximizing natural light while minimizing noise levels to provide a peaceful environment for the animals. A major principle is to engage with the local community, building ties with adjacent companies, educational institutions, and veterinary services. This complete strategy guarantees that the campus blends in with the urban fabric, producing a dynamic, welcoming environment for dogs and their human friends.



Figure 13.13: Site plan - out of scale
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pako Street Animal website)

Functional Zones

- **Animal Housing:** Specialized rooms that provide pleasant living environments for diverse animals, with a focus on socializing and enrichment.
- **Veterinary Services:** Medical care services such as examination rooms, surgery, and diagnostic instruments are available.
- **Education and Training:** Workshops, courses, and interactive sessions promoting ethical pet ownership and animal care are held in these areas.
- **Adoption Center:** A pleasant space where potential adopters and animals waiting for permanent homes can mingle.
- **Outdoor areas for pets to exercise, play, and interact, fostering healthy lifestyles.**
- **Support Spaces:** Facilities such as toilets, utility facilities, and administrative spaces that help keep activities running smoothly.

Zoning Study with Percentages:

With the study of the project plan (Figure 13.14), the researcher can separate and identify four different correlated zones, where the space percentages are around the following:

- Animal Housing: 40%
- Veterinary Services: 20%
- Education/Training: 15%
- Adoption Center: 15%

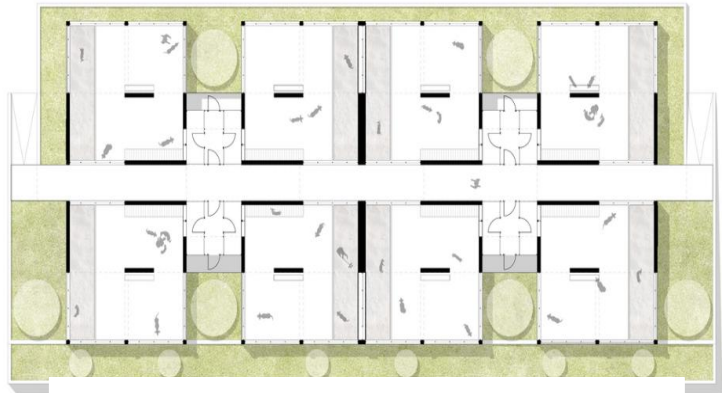


Figure 13.14: Ground floor plan - out of scale
(source: Search. ArchDaily - Pako Street Animal website)

Community Integration:

This integration happened through creating creative collaborations and inclusive involvement, the Pako Street Animal Social Life Campus naturally blends with its neighborhood. The campus's influence extends beyond its doors through collaborative activities with nearby companies, educational institutions, and local animal welfare groups. It aggressively engages locals in educational events, volunteer opportunities, and adoption drives, providing a shared place in which the community actively promotes animal care. This collaborative atmosphere not only benefits the lives of the animals on campus, but it also deepens the relationship between the school and the community, transforming it into a thriving hub for animal lovers and advocates alike.

Programming:

This table (13.2) summarizes the functional zones, their corresponding users, the required space allocation, and the materials required to equip each section of the Pako Street Animal Social Life Campus. Specific needs may differ depending on the campus's architecture, scale, and services.

Zone	Function	User	Space (m ²)	Items Needed
Animal Housing	Shelter, Socialization	Animals, Staff	400	Enclosures, Bedding, Enrichment Toys
Veterinary Services	Medical Care	Pet Owners, Staff	200	Examination Rooms, Surgery, Diagnostic Equipment

Education/Training	Workshops, Classes	Pet Owners, Staff	150	Classroom Space, Interactive Displays
Adoption Center	Facilitating Adoptions	Visitors, Staff	150	Adoption Rooms, Viewing Areas, Informational Materials
Recreational Area	Exercise, Play	Animals, Visitors	300	Outdoor Play Structures, Exercise Equipment
Support Spaces	Restrooms, Utility	Staff, Visitors	100	Restrooms, Storage, Administrative Offices
Total			1300	

Table 13.2: Programming - Case study 2 (source: created by the authors)

Interior Analysis:

Through a detailed study of the project's variable zones and the interior environment (Figure 13.15), which provide numerous facilities to meet the identified requirements, several critical aspects have been highlighted. These aspects encompass a comprehensive approach to designing spaces that ensure functionality, comfort, and adaptability for both pets and their caregivers. Key considerations include the strategic zoning of activity areas to minimize stress and promote efficiency, the integration of durable and pet-friendly materials to enhance safety and hygiene, and the incorporation of ergonomic furniture tailored to the needs of animals.

It was noticed that attention is given to creating a seamless flow of circulation for visitors, staff, and pets, ensuring ease of movement within the facility. The use of calming color palettes, effective lighting solutions combining natural and artificial sources, and carefully selected textures further contribute to a nurturing and welcoming environment. These highlighted elements collectively serve as a foundation for developing innovative interior solutions that prioritize the well-being of pets while maintaining functional excellence for their human companions. The specific highlighted aspects can be listed as the following:

- **Pet-Friendly Materials, comfy furniture, and stimulating surroundings:** Including pet-friendly materials, comfy furniture, and stimulating surroundings for animal well-being.
- **Community-Focused Spaces:** Creating locations for visitors and volunteers to learn, connect, and participate.
- Prioritizing safety precautions, appropriate ventilation, and natural lighting for a stress-free and healthy atmosphere.
- A community-driven, inclusive venue that promotes animal well-being, education, and adoption.
- **Style:** An appealing setting is created by combining contemporary, whimsical, and pet-centric themes.

- **Elements used:** pet-friendly flooring, safe and interesting furnishings, and specific places for various activities.
- **Circulation:** Clear walkways for guests and pets, as well as distinct places for various functions to reduce stress.
- **Lighting:** There is plenty of natural light, which is complemented by soft artificial lighting for comfort and atmosphere.
- **Materials and colors:** Concrete and micro-cement materials were used with vibrant, soothing color tones, as well as batches of intense, catchy, warm colors for a joyful but peaceful environment.



Figure 13.15: Images show the interior/extension zones (source: Search. ArchDaily - Pako Street Animal website)

Positives and Negatives:

Through the study of the project plans and analysis drawings and images, it is vital to brief the most positive and negative aspects as the following ...

Positives:

- Community engagement in animal welfare and education.
- Providing comprehensive pet services in a central location.
- Opportunities for pet socialization and adoption, promoting responsible ownership.

Negatives:

- Initial investment and ongoing operational costs.
- Managing noise levels and potential stress for animals in shared spaces.
- Potential regulatory challenges based on local zoning laws and permits.

So, the Pako Street Animal Social Life Campus sanctuary emphasizes compassion and kindness. It's intended to be a sanctuary, with the well-being and comfort of its animal residents as top priorities. The shelter is a paradise for animals awaiting adoption, with comfy living rooms customized to diverse animal requirements and areas stimulating socialization and human-animal connection. Its careful design encourages a stress-free atmosphere, ensuring that each animal's journey to find a permanent home is nurtured with love and attention.

The project was well established, and the most important facilities were separated in a connected layout. The main activities are animal Housing, veterinary services, education/training, and finally, the adoption center.

In addition to the suitable location, the extension and the connection between the exterior and the interior are recommended. Using natural materials and neutral colors is essential for this kind of project.

Conclusion:

Finally, the investigation of pet daycare in Saudi Arabia shows a remarkable tale that intertwines societal progress, cultural transformations, and the fundamental relationship between people and their animal friends.

The voyage through the chapters reveals pets' significant influence on our lives, underlining the critical necessity for specialized care facilities in a fast-changing society. The absence of pet daycare services is a substantial gap in meeting our beloved pets' emotional and physical requirements, as evidenced by pet owners' observations and understanding of animal behavior. This study highlights collaborative efforts and social responsibility for animal care. The history of care institutions and the detailed planning necessary to create purpose-built facilities demonstrate a shared commitment to cultivating empathy, responsibility, and a more compassionate society. Notably, the findings from thorough research, poll analysis, and design considerations highlight the critical role of pet daycare in addressing the psychological well-being of animals and, by extension, their owners. The urge to surpass regulatory requirements indicates an unrelenting commitment to establishing safe, loving settings adapted to the specific needs of dogs in Saudi Arabia.

Through the comparison between two well-selected case studies, a suitable location for the project should be selected, where it is recommended to be in a granary zone that is somehow away from the crowded city centers.

When designing interiors, it is essential to create a well-connected and easily navigable layout where each zone is distinctly separated yet seamlessly accessible from other areas. A thoughtful design approach ensures that the facility meets the identified requirements while prioritizing functionality, comfort, and adaptability for both pets and their caregivers. Strategic zoning of activity areas is crucial to minimize stress, enhance efficiency, and cater to the specific needs of animals. Durable and pet-friendly materials play a pivotal role in enhancing safety and hygiene, while ergonomic furniture tailored to the needs of pets further elevates the space's usability. Special attention must be given to achieving a seamless circulation flow for visitors, staff, and pets, ensuring effortless movement within the facility. The use of calming color palettes complemented by vibrant, warm accents creates a joyful yet peaceful atmosphere. Effective lighting solutions, combining natural light with soft artificial illumination, alongside carefully selected textures, contribute to a nurturing and welcoming environment. These elements collectively form the foundation for innovative interior solutions that enhance the well-being of pets while maintaining functional and aesthetic excellence for their human companions.

Key aspects to consider include:

1. **Openings and Transparency:** Incorporating glass and transparent materials fosters a sense of openness and connection with the exterior environment, promoting a more expansive and inviting atmosphere.
2. **Sanitation and Hygiene:** Providing facilities for cleaning and disinfection is vital to maintaining a safe and hygienic environment, preventing any unsuitable conditions within the space.
3. **Material Selection:** Natural and high-tech materials are recommended, particularly in animal clinics and play areas. Pet-friendly materials such as micro-cement, comfy furniture, and stimulating surroundings ensure a safe and engaging environment.
4. **Safety and Atmosphere:** Prioritizing safety precautions, proper ventilation, and abundant natural lighting is essential for creating a stress-free, healthy atmosphere that supports both physical and emotional well-being.

This refined approach ensures that every aspect of the interior design contributes to a harmonious and functional environment that caters to the unique needs of pets while providing comfort and convenience for their caregivers.

References:

- Dutton, Annemarie (2022) *Pet Ownership Statistics & Facts in 2022*. (online) Available from: <https://whatanalseat.com/pet-ownership-statistics/>
- Green, R. (2022) *Military working dogs: Canine war heroes through history*. American Kennel Club. (online) Available from: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/news/war-dogs-military-history/#:~:text=The%20states%20had%20an%20unofficial,as%20the%20K%2D9%20Corps>

- Karetnick, J. (2023) *Service dog 101: Everything you need to know about service dogs*. American Kennel Club. (online) Available from: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/service-dog-training-101/>
- Kerwin, N. (2022) *Appa releases Generational report on PET ownership, purchasing trends*. Petfood Processing. (online) Available from: <https://www.petfoodprocessing.net/articles/15660-appa-releases-generational-report-on-pet-ownership-purchasing-trends>
- Lamkahouan, C. D. (2019) *30 years of Doggy Daycare*. Animal Wellness Magazine. (online) Available from: <https://animalwellnessmagazine.com/doggy-daycare/>
- Martins, C. F., Soares, J. P., Cortinhas, A., Silva, L., Cardoso, L., Pires, M. A., & Mota, M. P. (2023) *Pet's influence on humans' daily physical activity and Mental Health: A meta-analysis*. Frontiers in public health. (online) Available from: [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10262044/#:~:text=Some%20authors%20have%20suggested%20a,%2DPet%20Owners%20\(NPOs\)](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10262044/#:~:text=Some%20authors%20have%20suggested%20a,%2DPet%20Owners%20(NPOs))
- McGowan, H. (2023) *Paws for thought: Is your pet feeling a complex emotion?*. Phys.org. (online) Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2023-06-paws-thought-pet-complex-emotion.html>
- Megna, M. (2023) *Pet ownership statistics 2023*. Forbes. (online) Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/pet-insurance/pet-ownership-statistics/>
- Person. (2021) *An animal sanctuary in Jeddah that is more than just a pet project*. Arab News. (online) Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1964966/saudi-arabia>
- Person. (2018) *A four-legged friend in Saudi houses*. Arab News. (online) Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1344891/saudi-arabia>
- Robinson, L. (2023) *The health and mood-boosting benefits of pets*. HelpGuide.org. (online) Available from: <https://www.helpguide.org/articles/mental-health/mood-boosting-power-of-dogs.htm#:~:text=Pets%20can%20be%20a%20great,%2C%20clubs%2C%20and%20training%20classes>.
- San Antonio (2018) *Military working dog care even better with opening of rehab facility and Recovery Kennels*. (online) Available from: <https://www.jbsa.mil/News/News/Article/1565433/military-working-dog-care-even-better-with-opening-of-rehab-facility-and-recover/>
- Search. ArchDaily. (n.d.). (online) Available from: <https://www.archdaily.com/search/all?q=pets+resource+center>
- Search. ArchDaily. (n.d.-a) (online) Available from: <https://www.archdaily.com/search/all?q=Pako+Street+Animal+Social+Life+Campus>
- Skerrett, P. J. (2015) *Pets can help their humans create friendships, find social support*. Harvard Health. (online) Available from: <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/pets-can-help-their-humans-create-friendships-find-social-support-201505067981>
- Thalidomide Trust. (2023) *Positive impact of pets*. (online) Available from: <https://www.thalidomidetrust.org/health-and-wellbeing/emotional-wellbeing/positive-impact-of-pets/>

- The Royal Australian College of general Practitioners. (n.d.) *The “pet effect.” Australian Family Physician*. (online) Available from: <https://www.racgp.org.au/afp/2012/june/the-pet-effect>
- *The pet industry in Saudi Arabia - go-to resource for the global pet industry: Globalpets. Go-to resource for the global pet industry* (2023) GlobalPETS. (online) Available from: <https://globalpetindustry.com/article/pet-industry-saudi-arabia/>
- Toby, (2023) *Who invented doggy daycare?*. 84 Acres Dog Daycare. (online) Available from: <https://www.84acres.co.uk/post/who-invented-doggy-daycare>