

## ***Items that we legally cannot sell or can only sell under certain conditions***

### **Items that we *cannot* sell in RSPCA Charity Shops**

*Please do not donate these items as unfortunately we will then have to dispose of them, and as a Charity we are charged for all waste collections:*

- 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 armchairs, 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 - this includes donated pin badges, T shirts and mugs, greetings cards. Ideally please return them to the charity they came from.
- Electric blankets.
- Spectacles with prescription lenses.
- Prams and pushchairs that do not conform to BS standards number 7409 or BS EN 1888:2003.
- Occasional tables, wall cabinets, bookcases etc with glass that does not have toughened safety glass evident by an engraving or similar safety glass mark.
- Toys (including homemade) without the CE mark.
- Weapons, including knives that could be used as an offensive weapon.
- Wines and spirits.
- Human foodstuffs that are unpackaged and require weighing and handling.
- Home recorded DVDs, videos, CDs and tapes that contain copyright material.
- Entertainment DVDs and videos, which do not bear the BBFC logo. Any DVD with cert R18 rating.
- DVDs, videos, cassette tapes and computer disks that may contain sensitive material.
- 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.

More information can also be found in the "items we cannot sell because we love animals" section below.

### **Other items that must meet certain conditions in order to be legally sold in our Charity Shops**

*Please do not donate items which do not meet the conditions below as unfortunately we will then have to dispose of them, and as a Charity we are charged for all waste collections:*

- Bicycles must have the relevant BS number. Please ensure they are roadworthy and safe.
- Pierced earrings must be in new packaging and never worn.
- Toys must bear the relevant CE mark or BS safety number and are fully inspected for safety. Toys that would have had a CE mark on the packaging and are of a well-known genuine make, such as Tomy, Boots, Mothercare, Fisher Price will normally be acceptable.
- Fancy dress costumes must have a CE mark.
- Skates, Roller Blades, Cycles and Skateboards must carry the warning 'To be worn with protective equipment'.
- Computer Games must be in original packaging showing the age classification as it is illegal to sell a game with an age restriction to someone below the specified age.
- 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. You can obtain a copy of 'Toy Safety, Guidance notes on UK Regulations' from your [local Trading Standards Office](#), which gives good guidelines on establishing and recording the standards of manufacture needed to ensure compliance with these Regulations.

### **Items we cannot sell because we love animals**

*Please do not donate these items as unfortunately we will then have to dispose of them, and as a Charity we are charged for all waste collections:*

- 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 or trivialise activities the Society is opposed to. This includes:
  - Items and books depicting hunting scenes, bullfights, bird shooting, dog and cock fighting, trapping etc.
  - Items and books 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 the removal of wild animals from the wild, eg glue traps.
- Clothing, accessories or arts and crafts 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 have 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](#).
- Animal accommodation (including hutches, runs, nest boxes, cages and tanks) that does not meet RSPCA standards for that species.
- Choke chains, pinch/prong or electric shock collars, spray collars or other aversive training equipment (eg 'pet corrector' type products).
- Elastic cat collars without a quick release fastening (snap-safe buckle).
- Muesli-style food for rabbits and 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, designed to sprinkle in gardens at Christmas, which contain glitter, plastic beads, sequins or other artificial contents. Non-artificial ingredient varieties are acceptable.
- Sky lanterns, also called Chinese lanterns.