

Turtle Sale Requirements

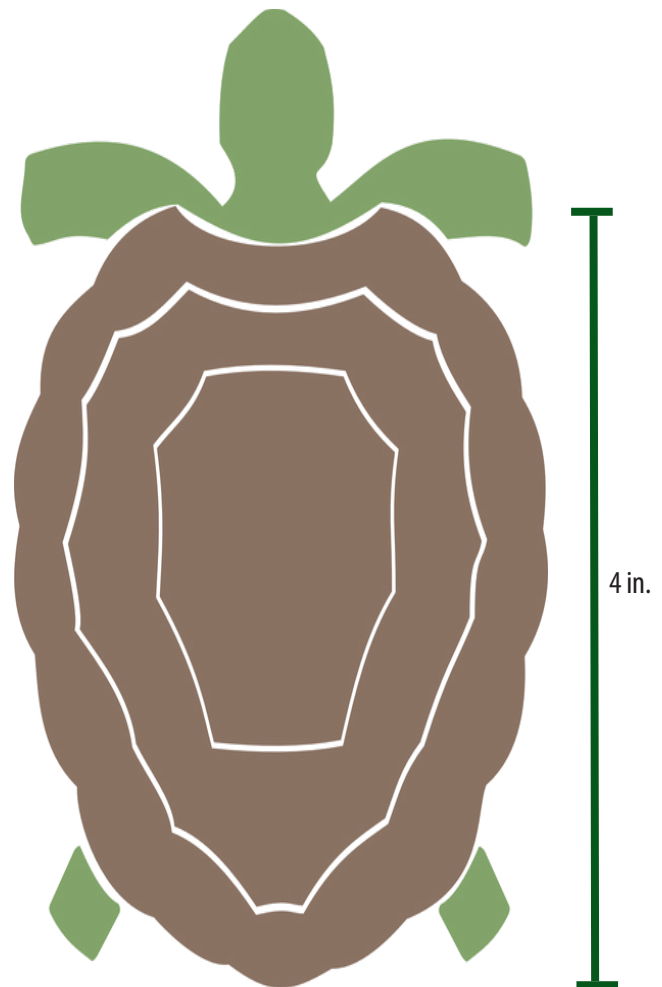
The sale of small turtles and viable turtle eggs is illegal in the US because turtles can carry a germ called Salmonella. Only purchase turtles with shells longer than four inches. The only exemptions for the sale of small turtles and viable turtle eggs are for legitimate scientific, educational, or exhibition purposes.

Turtles Carry Salmonella

Infected turtles can look healthy but still carry salmonella and spread the disease to humans. There is no effective way to make turtles salmonella-free, even if they are treated with antibiotics. Salmonella infections in humans can be especially severe in infants and the elderly, and can result in death in immunocomprised populations.

If you are purchasing a small turtle or viable turtle eggs for legitimate scientific, educational, or exhibition purposes, take the following precautions:

- Do not allow the turtle or the turtle's water near your mouth.
- Wash hands thoroughly after touching the turtle, cage or water.
- Change the turtle's water frequently.
- Do not change the water in the same location where food is prepared for human consumption.
- Do not feed the turtle raw meat or anything that contains raw eggs.



If you meet the exemption requirements and are purchasing a small turtle and viable turtle eggs, visit www.cdc.gov/healthypets for more information on how to be safe around turtles and other reptiles.

Michigan law requires that sellers of small turtles and viable turtle eggs for legitimate scientific, educational, or exhibition purposes provide the purchaser(s) with a copy of this document.

Questions? Contact us at 800-292-3939