

Thorax – Dorsoventral (DV)



Positioning

- Sternal recumbency, forelimbs extended cranially
- Ensure not rotated - ensuring the head is straight can help
- Position over the 6th thoracic vertebrae, in the midline
- Collimate to include the entire chest (including the diaphragm)
- Expose on full inspiration
- Ensure L/R marker in primary beam.

What to look for

- Ensure spine and sternum are superimposed
- Try to ensure no positioning aids are under the chest.

Top tips

- For deep chested dogs it can help to rest their head on foam pads or a sand bag
- It can be a good idea to hold the X-ray trigger on prep while you watch for full inspiration, then the exposure will occur when you want it, not a few seconds later.