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KEY

 Preventive measures

 Corrective measures

 Production cycle

 Transfer to or from hospital

Types of welfare improvement for gilts and sows

 Improves health (reduction of risk of soft-tissue lesions and/or mobility disorders)

 Reduces risk of heat or cold stress

 Reduces hunger and/or thirst

 Reduces social stress

 Helps animals to move around

 Helps pigs to express natural behaviours (exploring, foraging, nest-building, etc.)

 Helps animals to rest

 Avoids stress of handling



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Preventive measures

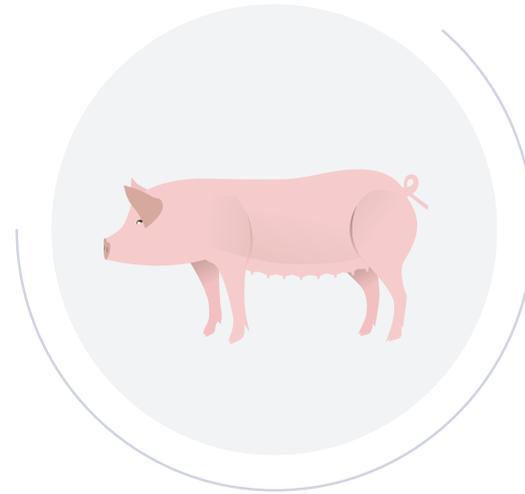
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Selection of gilts



Characteristics

- **Weight:** 135-150kg
- **Age at breeding:** around 200 days
- **Genetic selection criteria:**
no fast-growing or hyperprolific lines

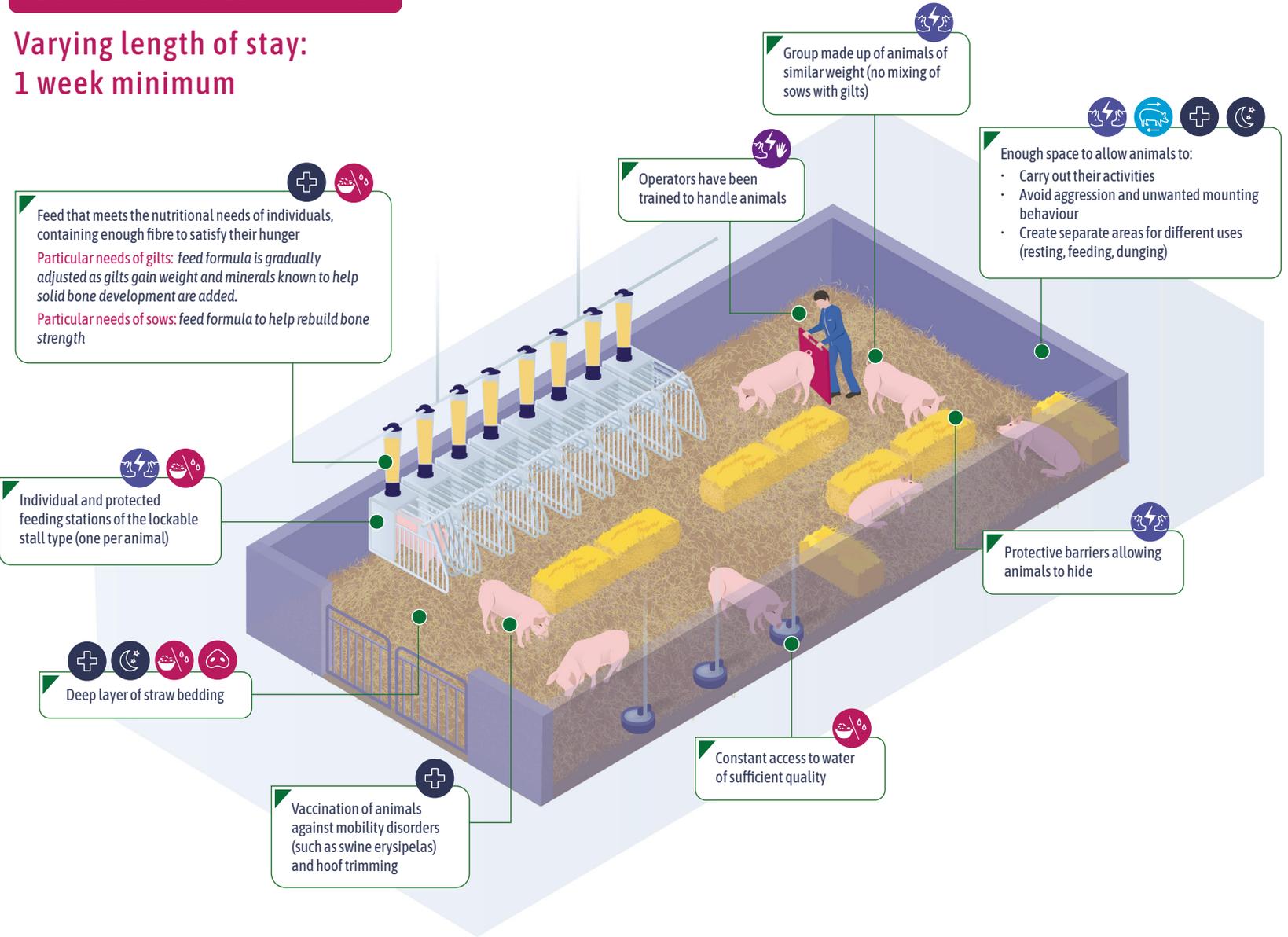


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Group housing area

Good welfare conditions

Varying length of stay:
1 week minimum



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Group housing area

Adequate welfare conditions

Up to one week before farrowing

Focus on measures that meet minimum welfare requirements

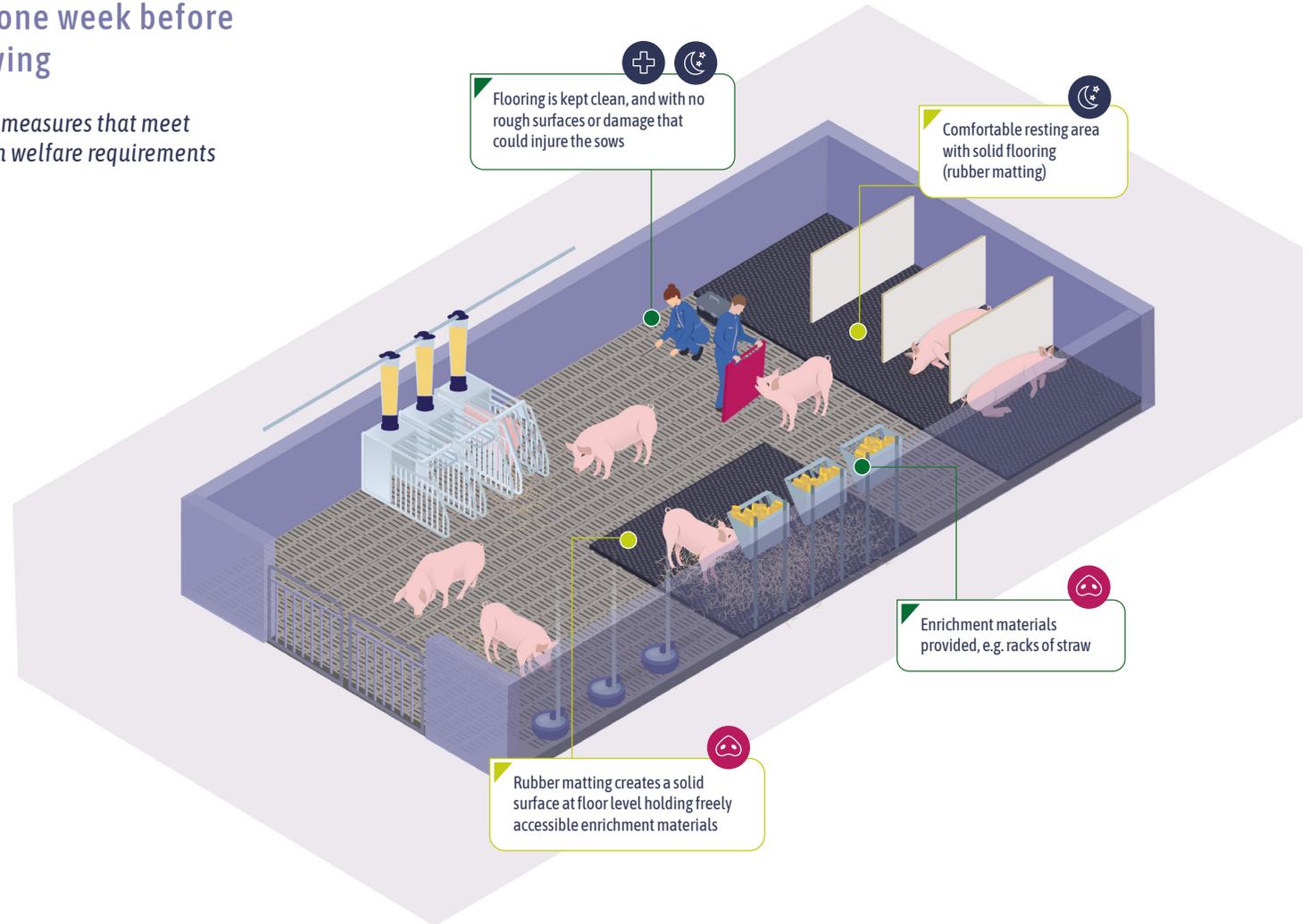
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Flooring is kept clean, and with no rough surfaces or damage that could injure the sows

Comfortable resting area with solid flooring (rubber matting)

Enrichment materials provided, e.g. racks of straw

Rubber matting creates a solid surface at floor level holding freely accessible enrichment materials



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Farrowing and nursery areas

Sow is left alone for about 5 days

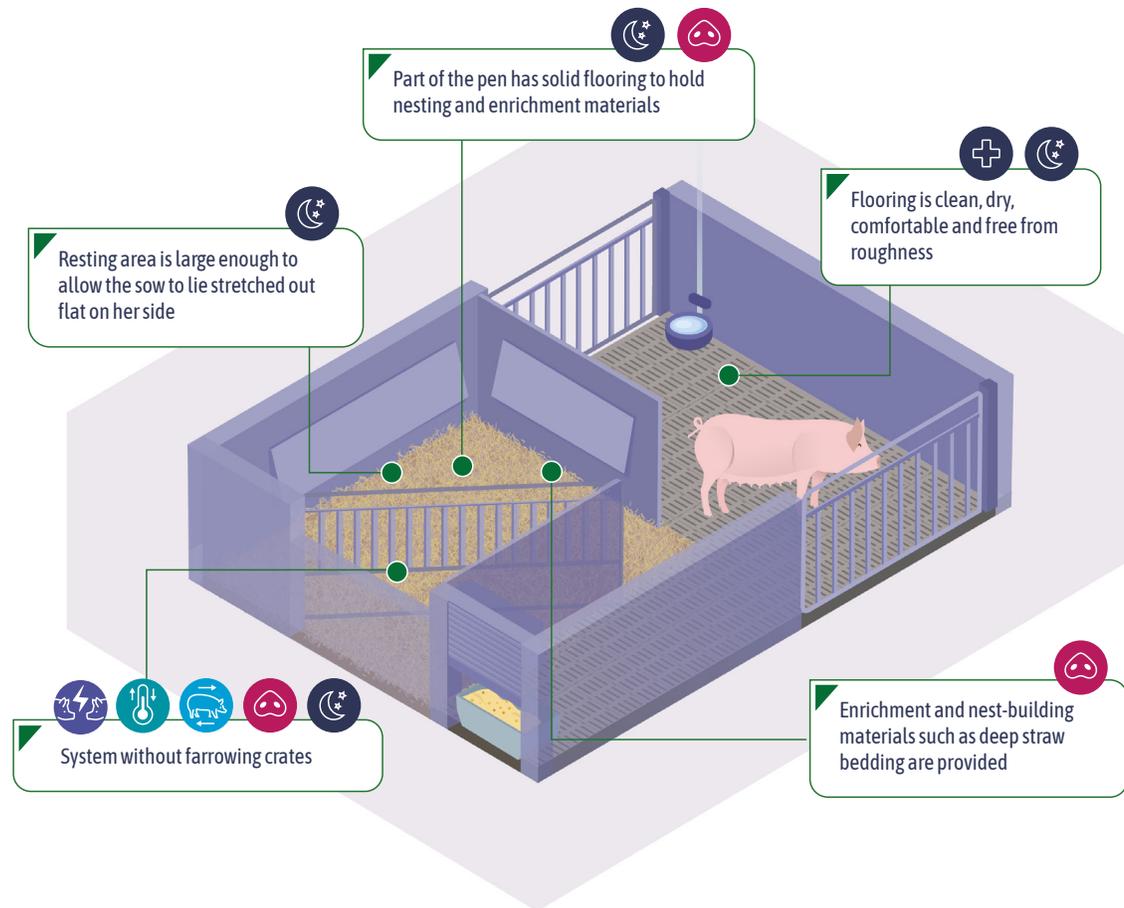
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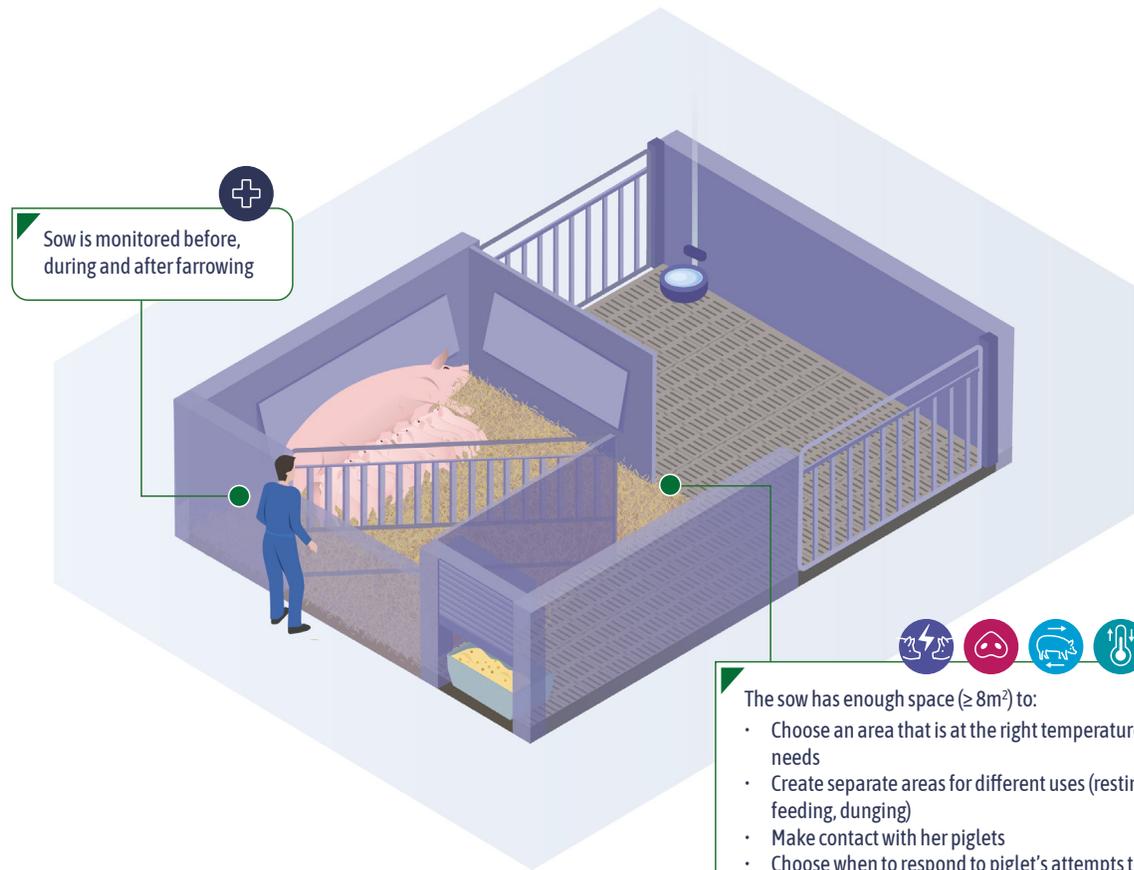




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Farrowing and nursery areas

Sow remains with her piglets for about four weeks



Sow is monitored before, during and after farrowing

The sow has enough space ($\geq 8\text{m}^2$) to:

- Choose an area that is at the right temperature for her needs
- Create separate areas for different uses (resting, feeding, dunging)
- Make contact with her piglets
- Choose when to respond to piglet's attempts to suckle

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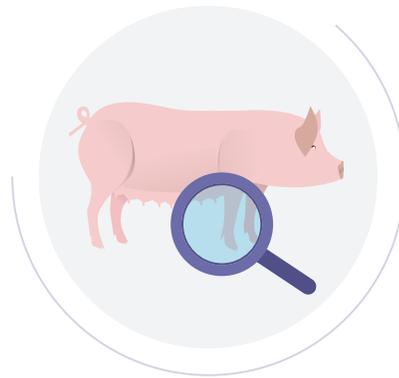
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Monitoring the sow's condition after weaning



Inspection criteria:

- Condition of the teats
- Condition of the body
- Mobility



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Hospital pens

