



PET SUPPLIES "PLUS"

Your pet's favorite store.

GERBIL

Meriones unguiculatus

ORIGIN: Gerbils are native to Mongolia and Northern China although your gerbil was born in captivity in the USA. Gerbils can make great pets and are fun to watch. Their antics and family interactions can entertain you for hours. They are also incredibly friendly pets and rarely bite unless provoked. They can be taught to climb up your shoulder and can sit there, or on your head!

LIFESPAN: 3 years

GESTATION: 24-28 days. To avoid babies, it is best to keep 2 young same-sex gerbils together.

SIZE: Gerbils reach an average adult body length of 4 to 5 inches and the tail is equally long. Males are slightly larger than females. Gerbils should never be picked up by their tails as they will break off and not regenerate.

CAGING: Gerbils will thrive in a variety of available glass and plastic cages with well ventilated lids. For example, a pair of gerbils will flourish in a 10-gallon aquarium. Add 5gallon to each gerbil you add to that home. Wire cages are not recommended because they will constantly gnaw on the wire and injure themselves. Gerbils can be very good at escape, so be sure to secure your cage.

SUBSTRATE: Gerbils can be successfully kept on a variety of substrates such as any pelleted or processed bedding. Cedar and Pine shavings should be avoided because of the risk of ingestion and

respiratory infections. The substrate should be deep enough to allow the gerbils to burrow.

TEMPERATURE: Gerbils will adjust to room temperature, but extreme heat and cool should be avoided. The cage should be placed in a location that is free from drafts and direct sunlight.

DIET: Gerbils will thrive on a variety of commercially available vitamin fortified pelleted foods. In addition, the gerbil diet can be supplemented with fresh fruits and vegetables, and bird seed. It is important that chew items are available so that the teeth are kept worn down. Gerbils must have access to fresh, clean drinking water at all times. A water bowl or sipper bottle can be used. The latter is typically cleaner and easier to maintain.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- Secure cage with lid
- Water dish or bottle
- Ceramic food bowl
- Substrate as detailed above
- Literature about your gerbil
- Nest box
- Vitamin fortified pelleted food
- Tubes to simulate burrows
- Gerbil treats
- Running wheel WITHOUT spokes
- Wooden chew toys

SMALL ANIMAL & BIRD REPLACEMENT GUARANTEE

Congratulations on your new pet and thank you for shopping at Pet Supplies "Plus" where we strive to sell the best quality pets possible. Please contact the Pet Supplies "Plus" where the animal was purchased with any questions or concerns about your new pet.

- Pet Supplies "Plus" guarantees the health of all animals for 7 days. Please bring in the animal along with the original sales receipt should any problems arise within the seven day period.
- Due to many different variables Pet supplies "Plus" does not guarantee the sex of any animal.
- Pet supplies "Plus" does not assume responsibility for any veterinary care or medications.
- Please practice proper hygiene whenever handling animals.

Thank you for your purchase. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

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NOTE: The information contained in this caresheet solely represents the opinions of the author. It is not intended as a complete guide to your animal.