

Guinea pigs



Know what your guinea pigs need.



FOOD AND WATER

- Find out what and how much your guinea pigs should eat to stay happy and healthy. You can ask your vet for advice.
- Always make sure your guinea pigs have fresh, clean water – use a drip-feed water bottle available from pet shops.



A GOOD HOME

- Give your guinea pigs a properly built, spacious hutch – one side to live in and one side to sleep in. The hutch should be raised off the ground in a sheltered spot.
- Find out what sort of bedding your guinea pigs need – you will have to clear out any wet or soiled patches and replace with fresh bedding every day.



COMPANY

- Make sure your guinea pigs have company of their own kind – guinea pigs kept by themselves will be unhappy. But don't put two adults together that don't know each other as they may fight! It is best to choose littermates of the same sex.



TO BEHAVE NORMALLY

- Let your guinea pigs run around during the day in a secure enclosure in the garden. Guinea pigs should not be left in a hutch or cage all day long.



TO BE HEALTHY

- Get to know your guinea pigs – you will soon be able to spot the signs if something is wrong – and take them to the vet if they are unwell or injured.

This is very basic information. Find out more about what your guinea pigs need. Talk to us on the RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555 or visit: www.rspca.org.uk/petcare

www.rspca.org.uk



GUINEA PIG CARE

Your guinea pigs deserve the best care possible so make sure you are also prepared to:



- neuter your guinea pigs – if you are putting male and female guinea pigs together, they must be neutered to avoid unwanted pregnancies
- feed your guinea pigs twice a day – they must have plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables so they get enough vitamin C
- keep an eye on your guinea pigs' teeth and claws – if they get too long they may need to be trimmed by your vet.



A female guinea pig could produce five litters a year – don't breed from your guinea pigs unless you are sure you can find good homes for the babies!

Did you know...

the law that protects pets has changed?

You have a legal responsibility to care for your guinea pig.

Find out more at: www.rspca.org.uk/petcare or talk to us on the **RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555**

0300 numbers are charged at your carrier's national rate, inclusive of call packages.

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