

Small furrries



Know what your pets need.



FOOD AND WATER

- Find out what and how much your small mammal should eat to stay happy and healthy.
- Make sure your small mammal has fresh, clean water in a suitable, well-positioned, container.



A GOOD HOME

- Make sure you know how much space your small mammal needs so that it can move around naturally.
- Get advice on how to protect it from hot and cold temperatures, draughts and disease. Find out how to prevent it from escaping.



COMPANY

- Make sure you know how much company your small mammal will need. Should it be kept alone, in a pair or in a group? Take care to prevent competition for food, refuges and mates!



TO BEHAVE NORMALLY

- Find out what your small mammal would do naturally. Some spend a lot of time climbing branches, others need to dustbathe regularly or use a nest box to sleep in, raise young and seek refuge.



TO BE HEALTHY

- Get to know your small mammal, as this will help you to spot the signs if something is wrong.
- Take your small mammal to the vet if he/she is unwell or injured. Don't leave it too late – if you are unsure, ask your vet for advice.

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

www.rspca.org.uk



SMALL FURRIES CARE

Your small mammal deserves the best care possible so make sure you are also prepared to:



- find out when your animal is old enough to breed to avoid unwanted litters when animals are kept together
- make sure the person looking after your animal when you go on holiday knows how to care for it, including minimising disturbances, safe handling, frequency of cleaning and replacing soiled floor covering and bedding
- find out how your small mammal will change – including its size and behaviour – as it matures, so that you are fully aware of how it is likely to interact with other animals and you
- provide the right environment for your pet as different species can have very different space needs – a jird will need to burrow, a chipmunk (pictured below) will need to climb and a sugar glider (pictured above) will need to glide.



A basic hamster cage with an exercise wheel is not appropriate for these small mammals and others such as degus and pygmy hedgehogs.

Did you know...

the law that protects pets has changed? You have a legal responsibility to care for your pet.

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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