RSPCA Hamster Care Advice

RSPCA COMPANION ANIMALS PET CARE FACTSHEET

TRANSPORTING YOUR HAMSTER

DO NOT TRANSPORT YOUR HAMSTERS UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, AS THIS CAN BE INCREDIBLY STRESSFUL FOR THEM.

IF YOU HAVE TO TRANSPORT YOUR HAMSTERS, MAKE SURE YOU PROVIDE FOR ALL THEIR NEEDS AND THAT YOU REDUCE THE STRESS OF TRANSPORTATION WHEREVER POSSIBLE

- Use a suitable, secure pet cage. Hamsters will readily chew and gnaw at free edges, and so can escape.

- Keep them in their cage whenever possible. If you need to transfer them into a smaller cage, make sure to provide for all their needs.

- Give your hamster(s) bedding material for comfort, and place used, unsoiled nesting material in the transport cage.

- Transferring a toy can also be comforting for them, but take care that it does not cause them injury during transport.

- Make sure your hamster(s) have access to food and water (Food can be given as pellets, and to avoid spillages and/or the flooding of the cage, water can be given as small pieces of fruit or vegetable unless it is a long journey).

- Transport any cage mates that the hamster is usually housed with, with them. This not only helps to reduce the stress of transport, but can also help to reduce aggression upon re-introduction to their group.

- Make sure the transport cage has a cover to keep it dark. However it is important that it also allows air to pass in and out of the cage for ventilation.

- Transport them in a quiet, air-conditioned car, rather than on public transport.

- Plan your route to minimise journey time and maintain suitable comfort and environmental conditions.

This pet care sheet has been produced by the RSPCA Companion Animals Department (V1 CAD/KW 04.11.10). This leaflet is provided for general information only and is not intended to be relied upon as specific advice. Whilst we try to ensure that the information is correct, we cannot accept any responsibility for the accuracy of the information, nor for any reliance on or use of the leaflet.