

Health

As with every pet, guinea pigs need a medical check annually, so make sure you take yours to a veterinarian at least once a year. If there are any symptoms such as a lack of appetite, persistent diarrhoea or skin problems, do not delay in seeking treatment. Guinea pigs are prone to back injuries, so you must remember to handle them very gently and do not let them fall. They are also prone to skin problems such as fungal infection and fur mites.

As their teeth need to be kept trimmed, you need to buy a gnawing or calcium block.

A guinea pig's anatomy is different from that of dogs and cats. When in doubt about your guinea pig's health, always consult a small animal-savvy veterinarian as soon as you can.



Adoption Information:

To find out more about adopting a guinea pig from the SPCA, please visit us at www.sPCA.org.sg or call us at 6287 5355 ext. 24 during office hours.

As a pet is a lifetime of commitment with considerable responsibilities involved, the SPCA prefers that the whole family comes down and view the pet. If you are unsure of the responsibilities involved, you may ask to speak to an Adoption Counsellor.

Location of the SPCA:

31 Mount Vernon Road, Singapore 368054

MRT Station: Bartley (Circle Line)

Bus Services: 28, 93, 158

Contact Information:

Telephone: 6287 5355

Web: www.sPCA.org.sg

Opening Hours (Adoption Area):

- Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri/Sat: 10.00am to 4.00pm
- Sunday and Public Holiday: 11.00am to 3.30pm
- Thursday: Closed (Unless it is a public holiday)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PET NEEDS YOU TO BE RESPONSIBLE AND COMMITTED. A PET IS FOR LIFE.

Biodata of the Guinea Pig:

Reproduction Age : From 4 weeks old

Gestation Period : 59 to 72 days

Average Litter : 1 to 6 babies

Weaning : From 3 weeks old

Lifespan : 4 to 8 years

Care of your Pet Guinea Pig



FRIENDS FOR LIFE®
092011

Important Information:

Although guinea pigs are prolific breeders, they are delicate small animals that may recover poorly from surgeries such as sterilisation. However, guinea pigs thrive on the company of their own kind. Therefore, the SPCA advises that guinea pig owners only keep those of the same sex together.

General Information:

Guinea pigs make wonderful companions. These docile members of the rodent family rarely bite and are known for squeaking with delight when their favourite humans enter the room. Guinea pigs are sociable animals, so it is better to keep a pair.

Guinea pigs generally do not like to be held. To show affection, spend some time daily petting and grooming your guinea pig. If it is necessary to carry your guinea pig, start by petting him first before picking him up with one hand over his chest and supporting his bottom with the other hand. Hold him close to your body.

Your guinea pig needs plenty of exercise; let him loose in a confined area at regular intervals daily.



Housing:

C&C Caging is a popular caging system made from shelf storage cube panels and corrugated plastic, and is usually lined with fleece bedding. It is spacious and comfortable for guinea pigs and is economical, versatile and easy to clean and maintain. The cubes can be bought from Daiso or Jin Yu Trading Pte Ltd and the corrugated plastic can be bought from Art Friend or Dama Enterprise Pte Ltd.

Guinea pigs love to hide when they play, so be sure to place cardboard tubes and/or small PVC pipes in the enclosure for this purpose. All guinea pigs need a 'cave' or 'hideout' for sleeping and resting, so please provide a covered sleeping box, readily available at a pet accessory shop.



ONY Piggies

Food

Your guinea pig needs fresh food daily. Hay is extremely important for your guinea pig and you should have some available in the cage all the time. A balanced diet also includes pellets and some fresh greens on a daily basis. You can buy pellet food for guinea pigs from pet shops. If feeding fresh vegetables (e.g. capsicum, romaine lettuce, parsley, etc) , it is very important to rinse and soak them in water for at least 30 minutes as there could be traces of insecticide which could harm your pet. If diarrhoea develops, reduce the amount of vegetables being fed. You may wish to search the Internet for a list of vegetables that guinea pigs can eat.

Guinea pigs also require vitamin C, which can be provided by foods rich in vitamin C (e.g. oranges) or by giving supplements.

Fresh water must be provided at all times in a bottle, which can be purchased from a pet shop.