

Hamster Factsheet



It's important to keep your pet happy and healthy, so find out the five basic welfare needs for hamsters in this fun factsheet.

Home

Home comforts

Hamsters can travel up to five miles in one night in the wild! So the bigger the better when it comes to their home, a one metre wide cage gives ideal space for exploring for most hamsters.



Diet

Feeding time

Hamsters are omnivores so enjoy a diet of seeds, grains, pulses and protein. Scattering food in their cage rather than using a bowl makes it fun to find. Small treats of broccoli, strawberries and even grapes can be fun to feed, plus they'll need a bowl or bottle of daily fresh water in their cage too.



Companionship

Pet pals

All types of hamster should live on their own, their best friends are humans and not other hamsters! If hamsters live together, they are likely to squabble which could lead to injuries.



Vet Care

Health and wellbeing

Hamsters are usually quite healthy pets, but keep an eye out for any changes in behaviour. If you spot one, visit a vet that sees hamsters a lot in their job – an ‘Exotics Veterinary Practice’ is a great place to start.



Normal behaviour

Keep your pet happy

Hamsters love to keep busy looking for food, digging and exploring. A super deep layer of bedding is fantastic for digging (just avoid sawdust as it's too dusty), then fill the top with wooden hides, a sand bath and a large wheel. Even old cereal boxes and empty kitchen roll tubes are great fun for exploring and playing inside.



A hamster's teeth never stop growing!

The best way to keep your pet's teeth healthy and smiley, is to give them natural treats like apple or pear twigs to gnaw on. Avoid unnatural colourful fatty chew sticks.

