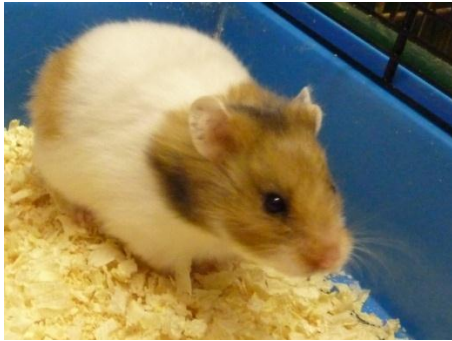


HAMSTER INFORMATION SHEET



Hamsters are fantastic pets and small companions.

We source our hamsters from a clean reputable establishment.

Some hamsters are also sourced from local reputable breeders.

DIET

Fresh water must be available at all times.

All hamsters are fed on hamster delight, a quality mixture of corn, pellets, maize, peas, sunflower, peanuts, locust beans and corn, containing sufficient vitamins and minerals for your hamster.

While green food fresh lettuce and sprouts are a welcome addition to their diet only small quantities can be given.

Mineral stones and licks are an important addition to your hamster's diets as they will provide extra minerals and vitamins.

Wooden chews also help alleviate boredom or willow sticks are given to chew, this will also help maintain healthy teeth and gums.

HOUSING

Your hamster cage should be spacious and well ventilated, ideally cages with bars instead of plastic or glass.

Hamsters are very active so ladders, tubes, wheels help make an ideal playground.

It is important hamsters are kept at an even room temperature. They should not be situated in a draft or in direct sunlight.

It is necessary to clean your hamsters out at least twice a week, and ensure your hamsters sleeping quarters are always dry.

It is ideal to use a small animal disinfectant when cleaning, as household products contain dangerous chemicals that may harm your pet. Small animal disinfectant is designed to kill bacteria and viruses to maintain a clean safe home.

Hamsters may be litter trained which can help reduce odours and improve hygiene.

HIBERNATION

If your hamster gets too cold it may try and hibernate, this should be prevented as it is dangerous for your hamster.

If your hamster tries to hibernate warm him up by wrapping him in something soft and put him in a warm place.

COMPANIONSHIP

The hamster is a solitary creature which means it likes to live on its own, though he does love his human companions to play with.

NOCTURNAL

Remember hamsters are nocturnal which means they like to sleep in the day and are active in the evening.

EXERCISE AND PLAY

Ensure your hamster has lots of toys and nibbles, to keep him entertained. This will help prevent boredom which can lead to cage biting.

Twenty minutes a day in a hamster ball will provide sufficient exercise, any longer may lead to exhaustion.

Watch your hamster carefully when you let him out to play and ensure there are no wires or crevices where they can hide or get lost.

BOARDING

We offer small animal boarding for your pet.

FIVEWAYS PETS
393 CHARMINSTER ROAD BOURNEMOUTH
01202 527920

HANDLING

Leave your hamster to settle in its new cage for at least 24 hours.

We recommend using a plastic cup to initially take hamster out of its cage. As hamsters are prey animals if they don't know your scent they may become frightened and bite. Place hamster in cup onto your lap at a low level, so it may venture out and investigate your smell, if your hamster becomes frightened it may then retreat into its cup. Gradually you may stroke your hamster when you feel it is more confident and pick it up scooping your hands underneath to support it.

Again as your hamster is nocturnal it is better to handle him in the evening as hamsters do not like being disturbed. Never grab a sleeping hamster.

You should not pick up your hamster with full pouches as this may harm him.