

Rat care at a glance



Accommodation

Minimum size: 120cm x 90cm x 60cm.

Ideal location: Dark, quiet room – sensitive to noise and light. Indoor only

Bar spacing: 2cm or less

Substrate depth: Shallow, but with a deep digging box provided.

Suitable substrate types: Hemp, paper pellets, wood pulp, shredded paper, shredded card, coco soil, hay.

Mixing substrates helps maintain burrow structures in dig boxes.

Nocturnal – mostly active during the night

Natural behaviours Digging, burrowing, ne

Digging, burrowing, nesting, running, foraging, gnawing, climbing and swimming.

Reproduction

Gestation period: 21-23 days.

Age of sexual maturity: 6-8 weeks old.

Age to split from opposite sex litter mates: 4-5 weeks.

Neuter: Single males if introducing to females.

Can be neutered from: 3 weeks and ideally before

4 months.

How long to wait post neuter before introductions 6 weeks

Vaccinations required: No Microchipping required: No

Cleaning

Spot clean daily: remove uneaten food and soiled bedding, wipe shelves, wheels or enrichment that has been soiled. Change the water.

Full clean: Every 1-3 weeks depending on group size/substrate type. Replace some used bedding in to a freshly cleaned cage.

Companionship

- Ideal pairs or groupings: Groups of 3 or more
- Neutered male with females
- All female group
- All male group

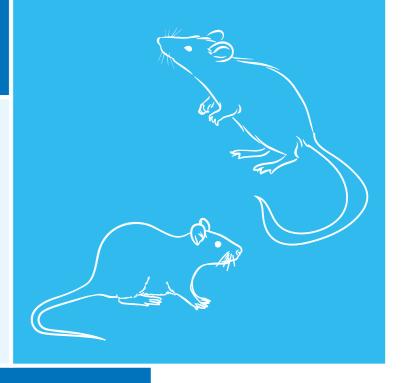
Diet

Omnivore – eats plant and animal products.

Main feed: 1 tbsp high quality commercial mixed rat food per rat per day.

Additional food: See rat feeding chart.

Average life span **2 years**



Enrichment

Provide: Wheel, climbing frames, hanging items, ropes, tunnels, pipes, nesting material, platforms, hides, branches, digging box. Prefer a cluttered environment.

Shallow water – must be supervised at all times. **Minimum wheel size:** 30cm.

Rats can be rehomed from 6 weeks old

Top tip

Rats are extremely light sensitive so should be kept in dimly lit areas.

Harmful food

Blue cheese, dried beans and corn, green potato, avocado, rhubarb, poppy seeds. 619332398/042