

# Mouse care at a glance

## Accommodation

**Minimum size:** 80cm x 50cm x 50cm.

**Ideal location:** Quiet room – sensitive to noise and light.

Indoor only.

**Bar spacing:** Less than 1cm.

**Substrate depth:** 'Burrow-able' 20cm + or provide a large digging box.

**Suitable substrate types:** Hemp, hay, wood pulp, shredded paper, shredded card.

Mixing substrates helps maintain burrow structures.

## Crepuscular – most active at dawn and dusk

### Reproduction

**Gestation period:** 19-21 days.

**Age of sexual maturity:** 5-6 weeks old.

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

**Can be neutered from:** 4-5 weeks once testicles have descended.

**How long to wait post neuter before introductions:** 6 weeks before introducing to females.

Males can be placed back together straight away.

## Natural behaviours

Digging, burrowing, nesting, climbing, running, foraging and hiding.

Average  
life span  
**1.5-2  
years**



## Cleaning

**Spot clean daily:** remove uneaten food, soiled bedding, wipe shelves, wheels or enrichment that has been soiled.

Change the water.

**Full clean:** Every 2-4 weeks depending on cage substrate and group size.

Replace some used bedding in to the freshly cleaned cage.

Avoid over cleaning as this can increase stress and scent marking.

**Vaccinations required:** No  
**Microchipping required:** No

## Companionship

Ideal pairs or groupings: Groups of 3-6.

- Neutered male with females
- All female group
- Mixed sex groups where females outnumber neutered males
- Male siblings neutered when young.

## Diet

**Omnivore** - they eat plant and animal products.

**Main feed:** 1 tsp high quality commercial mixed mouse food per mouse per day.

**Additional food:**  
See mouse feeding chart.

## Enrichment

Provide: Wheel, climbing frames, hanging items, ropes, tunnels, nesting material, platforms, hides, branches, digging box.

Prefer a cluttered environment.

Minimum wheel size: 21cm.

**Mice can be rehomed from 5 weeks old**

## Top top

Neutering males when young will increase the chance of maintaining group harmony.

## Harmful food:

Rhubarb, chocolate, walnuts, raisins, apple pips.