

### 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

#### Natural behaviours

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

#### 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

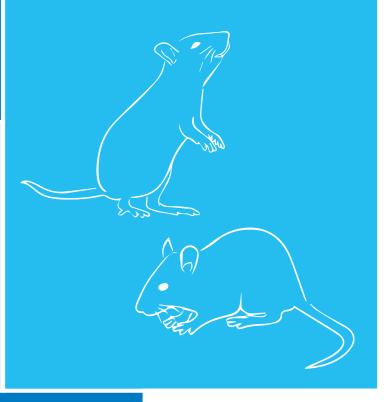
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How long to wait post neuter before introductions:

6 weeks before introducing to females.

Males can be placed back together straight away.

# 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. 19332398/0423