



# Our Guide to Guinea Pigs

[www.noahsarkpetshop.com](http://www.noahsarkpetshop.com)

## HEALTH & FITNESS

Guinea pigs should be handled using smooth & gentle movements gripping firmly but not tightly.

Fresh food should be given in the morning and any remaining later that day should be removed to prevent it from rotting in the cage.

Soiled bedding should be replaced daily & the hutch or cage disinfected weekly.

Poor hygiene & stress are common causes of guinea pigs becoming ill.

Signs of illness in a guinea pig are loss of appetite, dull coat and loose droppings.

Healthy happy guinea pigs will be alert, have bright eyes, a dry nose and a shiny coat.

**Noah's Ark Pet Shop**  
**Supplying the best for your**  
**pets for a very, very long time**

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## PERSONALITY

Guinea pigs make ideal pets for children as they rarely bite or scratch but can be a little nervous until they are used to you.

Guinea pigs are sociable animals and will be happiest living with others.

They enjoy human company and loved to be handled.

## OUTDOOR LIVING

Hutches should be raised off the floor, insulated, waterproof and in a draught free position out of direct sunlight.

Hutches must be protected from mice, rats, cats, dogs and foxes.

Hutches should be made of wood, have a solid floor, separate sleeping quarters and a wire front.

The front of the hutch should be covered at night.

The water bottle should be protected from frost during the winter.

## INDOOR LIVING

Housing guinea pigs indoors is not uncommon however when allowed to roam the house they should be supervised to avoid any unwanted chewing of wires.

An indoor hutch or cage should be of suitable size for the guinea pig when fully grown.

As guinea pigs invariably soil the same spot it is easy to litter train them.

## FEEDING YOUR GUINEA PIG

A complete food or pellets is the foundation of a balanced diet.

As Guinea Pigs cannot make their own vitamin C it must be provided fresh daily – Vitamin Drops can be given in fresh water each day.

Fresh greens should be fed in limited amounts.

A food containing a coccidiostat is not suitable for guinea pigs.

## LIFE EXPECTANCY

Guinea Pigs can live from 4 to 8 years

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