Our Guide to Hamsters

Noah's Ark Pet Shop

FEEDING YOUR HAMSTER

There are various types of hamster foods available. Both cereal mixtures & pellets provide a complete and balanced diet.

Fresh food should be given in very small quantities.

A Hamster will eat a tablespoon of food daily but will carry more than this to the ladder.

All sticky or sharp foods must be avoided as these can block the cheek pouches

HANDLING

Always handle your hamster gently but firmly as with all animals a nervous handler will communicate this to the hamster.

Hamsters have very poor eye sight and recognise you by smell and voice.

Pick up your hamster by cupping one hand underneath him and the other over him.

A hand that grabs suddenly from above runs the risk of being bitten.

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PERSONALITY

Hamsters do not make a suitable pet for children under school age.

Golden or Syrian Hamsters are solitary animals preferring to live alone and can become quite aggressive towards each other.

Hamsters are nocturnal, sleeping in the day and playing in the evening.

HOUSING

Hamsters love to exercise so a cage with plenty of room, play wheel, toys & tubes is the most suitable.

Plastic or metal cages are better than wooden ones as hamsters will gnaw the wood possibly causing damage to their pouches.

Cages should be kept out of drafts or direct sunlight and in a temperature range of 15°C - 20°C.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

Hamsters live on average 2 - 2.5 years.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Play balls are a good form of exercisebut they must be supervised at all times when not in their cage.

Avoid sudden changes in diet and temperature .

Bedding should always be kept clean & dry with the cage being disinfected weekly.

Hamsters teeth continue to grow throughout their lives so require mineral stones, hamster treats and chew toys always to be available.

Hamsters can cage colds from humans, so when you have a cold avoid handling your hamster.

Signs of illness in a hamster are lose of appetite, listless, coughing, runny eyes, sneezing or diarrhoea.

Noah's Ark Pet Shop

Supplying the best for your pets for a very, very long time

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