

Mice



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Overview

Mice are adorable and lovable animals that can be very rewarding to care for. They are social and active pets that might be a little shy at first, but can become great companions with a little time for them to get used to you. Mice can even recognize the sights and sounds of their family after time!

Mice have an average domestic lifespan of up to **3 years** and they grow to be about 3 inches long. Mice need a **20" L x 10" W x 12" H** enclosure which will house up to four mice! They can live in a glass tank or mesh cage with narrow spacing so they will be secure.

Mice are **omnivores** and should be fed a well-balanced diet! You can purchase pellet food for mice and add in some grains, veggies, fruits, and hay as supplements to their diet. They should be fed in the evening since they are nocturnal and usually more active at night! They should also have access to clean, fresh water at all times.

Information from [petco.com](https://www.petco.com)

Housing

While mice are small, they will thrive in an enclosure with enough room for them to exercise, hide, and play comfortably! Mice can be kept in glass habitats or metal/wire habitats, but it's important to make sure that your new friend has plenty of ventilation and that they won't be able to easily escape their home. They love to have hiding spots and you can also add an exercise wheel so they can stay active! Your mouse's enclosure should be spot-cleaned daily to remove soiled bedding and deep-cleaned once a week or more as needed. Make sure your mouse always has access to fresh food and water in their enclosure!



Behavior

Your mouse should be active, social, and curious about their surroundings! They like living with other mice, but do best in all-female groups. Male mice can live together if they are littermates and have been living together their whole lives. Mice are nocturnal, so they will be most active during the night time! They love to burrow in their enclosure and will feel most safe if they have plenty of hiding places.



Handling

Mice are very social, though they might need some time to get used to you at first! Mice would be good pets for families with older children who can safely participate in the care and handling of their pets with supervision. You can also train your pet mouse! Use treats like millet and sunflower seeds and gentle handling to encourage desired behaviors such as sitting in your hands or on your shoulder. Make sure that you always hold them over a soft surface so they don't injure themselves if they jump or fall!