
 2-4 years

 3-8 inches

 Beginner

 65-75° F

 Pellets, Seeded Food
& Gerbil Nuggets



Gerbils are funny, and active little rodents that come in a variety of colors, and can live for up to 4 years with proper care. Gerbils are also quite inquisitive, and need many different activities in their habitats to keep them busy. Unlike other rodents, gerbils are diurnal, meaning they are awake during the day, which can make them an ideal pet for day time play. These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research, and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

CAGE SET UP

Gerbils are active and love to jump, run, and play. Their cage should have ample room to roam and hide. A 10 – 20 gallon glass aquarium with a screen top works well for two gerbils. A wire cage for small rodents is also a good choice. Be sure to get a cage that has the wire spaces close enough together that the gerbils can not escape, such as the Kaytee Critter Trail or the Prevue Hamster Haven.

BEDDING

Care Fresh, recycled paper bedding, or soft wood shavings will all work well with your gerbils. To alleviate any issue with sneezing and wheezing, we suggest the non-wood products, as they are less dusty. As always, NEVER use cedar shavings with any small animal. It can negatively affect the respiratory tract in small animals.

TEMPERATURE

Room temperature, between 65-75°F, is ideal for gerbils. Avoid any direct sunlight on them for long periods of time, and keep their cages away from drafty areas.

FOOD

Any quality gerbil or rodent food is suitable for gerbils. Gerbil pellets or nuggets, along with seeds, fruits, and vegetables, should make up the majority of a gerbil's diet.

HANDLING

Gerbils are very social animals, and like to interact with their owner and other gerbils. They rarely bite, yet move very quickly. You should be sitting on the floor while holding the gerbil, as to lessen the fall if the gerbil jumps from your hands. We suggest getting two gerbils for the "social" well-being of the animal. Reminder; if you get gerbils of the opposite gender, they WILL breed.

CAGE CLEANING

Gerbils are very clean animals. Clean the excrement from the cage daily, and wipe the inside down with a gently cleaner. Kaytee Clean Cage is a great cleaner and deodorizer. To bathe your gerbil, use the Kaytee Critter Bathe Powder.

ACCESSORIES AND CHEW TOYS

Gerbils are very active and need toys, hides, and chews in their cage at all times. Wooden chews will help keep their teeth at a reasonable length, and will keep them busy for hours. Gerbils also love to run in their wheels. Choose a silent spinner, or plastic wheel, so the gerbil's tail does not get caught in the metal