

Mice are very intelligent, social animals, and do very well in small groups (especially females). They can be handled, however, they are very quick, and can be hard to manage for small children. If you are looking for a small pet that is fun to watch and not difficult to care for, a mouse may be just the right choice! These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

CAGE SET UP

Mice need space to roam and play, so a 10 - 20 gallon glass aquarium with a screen top works well for two to four mice. 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 mice can not escape, such as the Kaytee Critter Trail or the Prevue Hamster Haven.

BEDDING

Care Fresh, recycled paper bedding, or hardwood shavings will all work well with your mice. To alleviate any issues 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 mice. Avoid any direct sunlight on them for long periods of time, and keep their cages away from drafty areas.

FOOD

Any quality mouse or rodent food is good. They are omnivorous, and will enjoy variety in their diets, such as rodent pellets, fruits, vegetables, and grains.

HANDLING

If you are looking for a small pet to handle and cuddle, it may take some time to get your pet mouse to that point. They can be handled, but be patient, as they are very quick to jump, and at times, quick to bite.

The more time that is spent gently handling your pet mouse, the more tame it will become.

CAGE CLEANING

Clean your mouse's cage daily and replace soiled bedding. You can try to litter train it, using small animal litter in a small pan in the corner of the cage. It is important to keep the bedding, dishes, water bottle, and accessories clean, as the cage will smell rather quickly if not taken care of properly.

ACCESSORIES AND CHEW TOYS

Mice are very active, playful, and inquisitive animals. They will chew on almost anything in their cage; wood chews, cardboard tubes, and wooden hides are all great to have in the cage. Mice also love to run on their wheel for hours a day! Hard vegetables and fruits, such as carrots and apples, also make great chews for your pet mouse.