

# How to look after a Guinea Pig

Have you ever wanted to have a guinea pig, but you don't know a lot about them? Well you're in luck because these are some of the things you need to know.

## **Before You Buy A Guinea Pig Think About...**

- The day that you get them they are not going to be tamed straight away so you need to be patient, and build trust with your guinea pig.
- If your guinea pig is going to be an outside guinea pig, you need quite a big garden so your guinea pig can exercise and have a place to explore.
- Also, you need to get them at the right time. It would be a better time to get them in the summer or Spring so that the grass is long and growing for your guinea pigs to eat.
- The last thing you need to think about is the cost. Guinea pig food is not cheap! It can be quite expensive buying all the fresh supplements. Your parents will need to think about this.

So, you've decided to go ahead and buy one... follow these instructions and you will know exactly what to do every day!

## **You Will Need:**

- Brush
- Pet friendly shampoo
- Hutch
- Food
- Hay
- Straw
- Shavings
- Water bottle
- Bowl
- Toy
- Bucket/Bin

## What To Do

1. Once you get your guinea pig home it will be scared and confused so, leave it in the box for at least an hour.
2. While it is in its box get its cage ready. Put sawdust at the bottom, then add the straw and hay to the bedding area.
3. Don't forget to put food and water in the bottom of the hutch.
4. Your guinea pig will also need some fresh vegetables too.
5. Next carefully put the box in the hutch and open the lid, so if the guinea pig does want to come out it can.
6. Finally leave the guinea pig so it can get use to its surroundings
7. Feed your guinea pig in the mornings and night remembering to check the water too.
8. You **MUST** handle your guinea pig regularly if you want to tame it.
9. Also remember to clean your guinea pigs cage at least once a week.



Guinea Pigs **LOVE** to eat:

Spinach	Celery	Carrots	Apple
Strawberries	Cucumber	Kale	Lettuce
Dandelions	Melon		

**NEVER** give your Guinea Pig:

Iceberg lettuce	Beans	Potatoes	Cooked Vegetables
Citrus Fruit	Squashes		