



GUINEA PIG CARE GUIDE: HOUSING

CAGE

Size: 7.5 sq feet for one–two pigs; 10.5 sq feet for three pigs; 13 sq feet for four pigs. Guinea pigs cannot climb or jump vertically so rely on floor space.

Material: Most guinea pig cages you find in the stores are much too small on their own. It is recommended to either build your own cage or expand your cage with fencing or an exercise pen.

Example

One of the best cage options is a homemade cage called a C&C (cubes and coroplast) cage. It is fairly easy to make and inexpensive compared to cages sold at pet stores. It is also very easy to clean and provides appropriate space. The bigger the better!

BEDDING

Good

- CareFresh
- Shredded paper
- Paper towels
- Yesterday's News (paper pellets)
- Fleece

Bad

- Cedar
- Pine
- Corn cob
- Caw dust
- Clay cat litter

DID YOU KNOW?

Guinea pigs can be trained to use a litter box! Teaching them to do this will make cage cleaning much easier. Avoid all wood bedding which may lead to respiratory illness.

FURNISHINGS

Decking out your guinea pig cage with not only the essentials but also an assortment of fun stuff to do, is incredibly important for the happiness and well-being of your pigs. It is ideal to change out the toys and furnishings for them, in addition to providing a variety of items to keep them from getting bored.

Why chew toys? Guinea pigs are rodents which means their teeth constantly grow. They require chew toys to gnaw on in order to keep their teeth trim.

Essentials

- Water bottle
- Food dish
- Shelter (box, igloo, etc.)
- Chew toy (wood, lava)

Fun Stuff

- Tunnels
- Toilet paper tubes
- Fiddlesticks
- Fleece blankets
- Cat jingle balls
- Pet beds
- Cardboard
- Wooden toys
- Treat balls
- Hay huts

