



MOUSE CARE GUIDE: EXERCISE AND SOCIAL NEEDS

EXERCISE

Wheels: Most mice love to run on wheels! This is a great way for them to exercise and keep entertained. Be sure to purchase a wheel with a solid base (never wire) that is large enough for your mouse to use without an arch in his back.



Solid Base



Wire

Exercise Balls: Letting your mouse run in an exercise ball can be a terrific way for your pet to safely explore your house. Be sure to always closely monitor your mouse when they are in their exercise ball to ensure they don't get stuck or escape.

Floor Time: Take your mouse out in an area where you can easily catch it such as on your bed or a chair. Let it run around in your hands, lap, and arms. Once it is comfortable with you, you can let them run around and play in your designated mouse-proof area.

Although mice are naturally nocturnal, they can easily adapt to your schedule. Mice thrive on routine. Try to stick to one in order to build trust and keep them active during the times you would like to interact with them.

Mice are very social animals and love to spend time with humans and other mice. They also enjoy puzzles and problem solving. Here are some fun game ideas to play with your mouse:

- Chase (using a toy)
- Fetch
- Food hunt (hide food for your mouse to find)
- Make a maze
- Obstacle Course
- Tickling

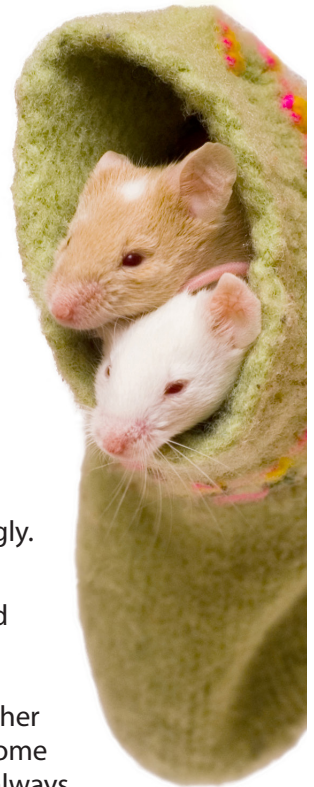
SOCIAL NEEDS

Mental Stimulation: Mice are incredibly intelligent and personable pets. They need daily time outside of their cage to explore, get some exercise, and bond with their humans. Set aside a minimum of one hour per day for playtime with your mouse. Younger mice will be more active and playful, while older mice are often content to explore for a short time and then spend a majority of the time resting and cuddling with you. Females are often found to be more energetic and independent, while males are more lazy and snuggly.

Bonded Buddies: Female mice are extremely social creatures and would be happier with at least one other female mouse to live with. Males, on the other hand, tend to fight with other males, even if they are littermates. Some males can be housed together, but always be prepared for the possibility that they may eventually have to live separately.

DID YOU KNOW?

Mice are trainable and can learn tons of fun tricks! They love to please and problem solve.



KEY COMPONENTS OF TRAINING

- Trust
- Positive reinforcement
- Consistency
- Repetition
- Patience