



## Guinea Pig Care Sheet

Guinea Pigs are herd animals and are most comfortable with a buddy. They live longer lives and keep each other company.

### Guinea Pigs Need:

- Unlimited Timothy Hay (pregnant or babies need Alfalfa Hay)
- ¼ cup pellets daily (straight pellets without nuts/seeds/or colored bits)
- 1 cup fresh vegetables per piggy daily (see Vegetable List)
- Fresh water in a bottle (unlimited)
- Absorbent bedding: fleece with absorbent layer, Carefresh paper bedding, Kiln-dried pine, or Aspen (Never use newspaper or cedar chips).

### Guinea Pig Extras:

- Places to hide: pigloos, cardboard boxes, tunnels, houses, fleece forests
- Wooden chew toys, apple sticks, baby blocks (guinea's teeth continue to grow and chewing keeps them healthy from overgrowing)
- Hay tray: Wooden hay rack, cloth hay bag, plastic hay rack (Hay Balls are dangerous and deadly)

### Important Facts:

- Guinea pigs are lactose intolerant so never give yogurt treats
- Guinea pigs need a vet when they get sick just like any other animal
- Guinea pigs have rounded spines, so never use balls or harnesses of any kind
- Guinea pigs do NOT need salt licks or Vitamin C in their water
- Hard seeds should be avoided as well as honey sticks sold at pet stores