

# Caring for your Guinea Pig

## COMPANIONSHIP:

Guinea Pigs are **herd animals**

Should be **handled daily**



They need companionship so must be **kept in pairs or groups**



## ACCOMMODATION:

### INDOOR ENCLOSURE:

Large enclosures with lots of space



C&C cages with fleece bedding is a popular choice

Does your Guinea pig **POPCORN?**

A guinea pig proofed room is ideal so they can free roam in your company



A secure run (with a lid) in the garden is nice so they can spend time in the sun and/or on the grass

shade, water & hides must be provided



### OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE:

Secure and in a sheltered position away from the elements

Shed/Garage ideal



A hutch with newspaper and lots of hay



A cover to protect them from wind and rain, as well as snuggle safes to keep warm



They do not cope well in cold weather

**MUST BE KEPT WARM**



## CLEANING , BEDDING, FOOD & WATER:



Large **outdoor** enclosure can be cleaned **twice a week**

Indoor Guinea pigs on fleece need to be cleaned **daily**

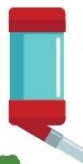
Small portion of complete dry food and a cup of veg per day



Straw is too hard and can damage eyes when they burrow in it



Guinea pigs cannot synthesise their own vitamin C so it must be provided in their diet



Need constant supply



Hay helps keep continuously growing teeth short & good for gut health



can have Vitamin C supplement in water

## GROOMING:

### MONITOR TEETH HEALTH

Issues with teeth (i.e. teeth are misaligned) could lead to starvation if unable to eat properly



Guinea pigs need **regular nail clipping**

**Long haired** guinea pigs need to be **groomed regularly**



## ENRICHMENT:

Put veg in a cardboard box or scrunched up newspaper so they have to figure out how to get it out



Pegging or hanging veg off the ground is a great way to get lazy guinea pigs exercising



Guinea pigs love playing with toys, burrowing in hay, gnawing on wood/sticks/cardboard and running through tunnels



Please note our guinea pigs are not vaccinated, neutered, microchipped or insured