

Your New Guinea Pig Checklist

- Solid-bottom cage, hex pen with narrow bar spacing, or grid-style setup
 - We recommend no less than 6sqft for an individual pig
 - Keep in mind that guinea pigs (especially females) like to live in groups though males that have been raised alone do well being kept alone
- Guinea pig pellets
 - Avoid pellets with large quantities of seeds or colored pieces. Guinea pigs will seek these out and waste the healthy pieces similar to a child picking marshmallows out of breakfast cereal
- Cage bedding
 - We recommend fleece or human washable potty pads, but other acceptable materials include fluffy paper bedding or kiln-dried aspen or pine shavings
 - **DO NOT USE CEDAR BEDDING.** The chemical in cedar that smells pleasant to humans burns their respiratory tracts and feet.
- Heavy food dish
 - We recommend ceramic crocks that are too heavy to tip or stainless steel that can be secured to the side of the cage. Plastic can be chewed to pieces and harbor bacteria while ceramic and metal can be easily sanitized.
- Timothy hay
 - Loose hay is essential for proper digestion and wearing down teeth.
 - Meadow and orchard hay are also great alternatives to those who are allergic to timothy.
- Bricks, rocks, cardboard boxes, plastic pipes & other safe toys
- Safe, covered area such as an igloo or large diameter PCV pipe to use as a den and safe sleeping/hiding area
- Attachable water bottle with drinking tube
 - We recommend using bottles designed to be secured to the outside of cages or glass bottles to discourage chewing on the plastic and thus flooding their cage
- Compressed hay bricks and/or apple tree sticks to wear down teeth
- Appropriate vegetables/fruits
 - Bell or sweet peppers
 - Spinach
 - Cilantro
 - Parsley
 - Dandelion greens (not sprayed with chemicals)
 - Apples
 - Broccoli
 - Romaine lettuce
 - Arugula
 - And more!
- Nail trimmers and styptic powder
 - You can view our YouTube channel to see a video of how to cut guinea pig nails or if you are in the Cincinnati area, you can stop in and we can do it for you for \$5
- Carrier to bring your new pet home in and for trips to the vet

