



## FACT SHEET - MICE

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Lively, fun creatures, easy to handle. Mice need companionship so it is always kinder to keep more than one. Best to keep female mice in groups as the males tend to fight each other unless they are litter mates. Introduce mice carefully, preferably in a different tank as females can be territorial. Remember, mice breed very easily, so make sure you sex them in order to keep males and females apart!



### Mice Need

- Companionship of other mice
- A cage at least 45x30x25cm high. More than three mice will need a bigger cage
- Clean bedding material of shredded plain paper or fresh hay with woodshavings on the bottom
- Hiding places such as cardboard toilet roll tubes and a nestbox
- A daily diet of mixed grains, fresh fruit and vegetables, a little bread and a mineral lick
- A constant supply of fresh water in a drinking bottle
- A piece of hard wood to gnaw on
- Plenty of exercise with an exercise wheel and ladders to climb
- To be kept indoors away from direct sunlight

### Mouse Health

- Any loss of fur or sore skin can be caused by parasites and ringworm and will need to see the vet
- Diarrhoea is very common in mice and will need to see the vet straight away
- Any form of respiratory problems such as nasal discharge or uneven breathing, seek veterinary help immediately
- If mice are unable to gnaw on wood and vegetables, their teeth may become overgrown so your vet might have to trim them

### Mouse Facts

- Average lifespan is 2 - 3 years
- Females come into season every 4 - 5 days
- Gestation is 19 - 21 days
- Average litter size is 7 - 8 but sometimes 6 - 14

This is intended as a quick guide only. Further information should be obtained before embarking on keeping this type of pet.