



## **Rats**

Pet rats live on average between two and four years.

Unlike hamsters, rats are just as likely to be awake in the day as at night.

Rats are really quite intelligent creatures and you can even teach them to do tricks!

Rats are sociable animals and don't like to be left alone so it is best to have more than one pet rat. Rats like to play and get very bored and fed up if they have no stimulation.

### **Housing your rat**

Rats don't like the cold so they need to be kept indoors. Your pet rat will need a good sized cage to live in with his or her friend or friends. It is better to have a cage with a solid floor as a wire base will hurt your rat's feet. However, wire sides to the cage are good because rats like to climb on them. You pet rats will need bedding in their cage such as shredded paper or perhaps a fleece on the floor and a box or bed to sleep in which can be lined with clean hay or shredded paper.

You will need to clean your pet rats' cage regularly and put in fresh clean bedding. Doing this frequently, will mean that your rat and his/her home won't smell.

### **What should you feed your pet rat?**

The best thing to feed your rat is a special rodent food which you can buy from good pet shops. Your rat will also like some fresh fruit and vegetables each day as well as having access to clean fresh water at all times.

If you are considering getting a rat/s and would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact us to make an appointment where we can discuss things in more detail with you.

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