



Mice

Mice are small active rodents. They are relatively easy to care and are nocturnal. Since they are so small, they can be a bit difficult to handle and should be handled with care. On average mice live between one and two years of age. Mice enjoy living in same sex familiar groups. You should use care when pairing two unfamiliar male because they may fight.



Behavior and Handling

Mice should be gently handled from a young age to get them used to being held. Mice who are not used to being handled may bite and will need time to get them used to you. Do not pick up mice by their tails. Do not let mice struggle and fall. Short falls can cause serious injury.

Mice should be given a few days to get used to their new environment when they are brought home. Once they are comfortable, begin offering them food by hand and talking to them softly.

Mice also enjoy plenty of enrichment to liven up their living space. Mice enjoy nesting spots, things to chew on and climbing. They love wheels, wood blocks, cardboard tubes and boxes.



Housing

Wire cages work or glass aquariums work best as cages for mice. Mice enjoy climbing so they will appreciate multiple tiers in their home. Be aware that glass does not allow as much ventilation as wire and may require more frequent cleaning.

Whatever style you choose, you should make sure it is “escape proof.” Once the mouse is out of his enclosure, he will be very difficult to catch.

Substrate

Avoid cedar and Pine shavings. They can release volatile oils that can harm mice. Aspen shaving work well or other mouse safe bedding like newspaper.



Diet

Mice are omnivorous and can eat a variety of foods. Mice should eat a prepared food mix you buy at the pet store to ensure they are receiving adequate balanced nutrition. They can eat plain pellets or a mixture of grain, pellets and seed. You should feed your mouse two tablespoons of mix per mouse per day. Mice can also eat small amounts of fresh fruit or vegetables. Do not feed them too much at once because it can cause gastro intestinal upset.



Health

Mice do not require vaccinations. They are susceptible to some ailments. Chronic Pneumonia, respiratory infections, tumors are the most common ailments found in mice. If you notice your pet has a decreased appetite, lethargy, weight loss, or trouble breathing, it is recommended you take your mouse to a veterinarian. Mice also have constantly growing teeth. Appropriate chewing items will help prevent any problems with the teeth becoming too long and causing health problems.

Fun Facts

Mice love basil leaves.

When mice are comfortable with you they will walk right onto your palm.

Mealworms and seeds make good treats for mice.

There are more than 50 color varieties.

For more information, please contact the adoptions department at (856)424-2288 ext.100 or adoptions@awanj.org.

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