

Supplies for Your New Mouse/Rat!

Did you just adopt a new rodent? Congratulations! Now it is time to shop for everything they will need to make your house their forever home! Below is the list of things we recommend purchasing before bringing a new buddy home with you.

Carrier



The very first thing you need to buy is a carrier to help you bring your rodent home! Hard carriers are safest!

Housing



There are many housing options for rodents, but it is important to do your research and select an appropriately sized habitat (the bigger the better!). Fish tanks and storage bins are often better choices for mice, but it is important to keep ventilation in mind as well! Multilevel cages are the best choice for rats, as long as the bars are less than 1/4-1/2 inch apart.

Bottles/Bowls



You should consider getting a small bowl to give food as well as a bottle to provide water.

Bedding



There are several bedding options for your new rodent! Commercially produced paper bedding is typically considered safest, but shredded paper or hay can also work well! We suggest avoiding wood shavings, as some can cause respiratory problems, especially Cedar.

Cleaning Supplies



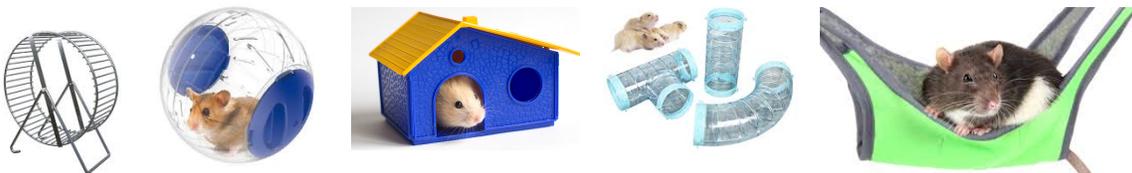
It is very important to make sure your rodent has a clean habitat! We recommend cleaning the cage daily, and emptying it for a deep clean once a week. You can use small animal cage cleaner or simply safe soap and water when deep cleaning.

Diet



A healthy diet is critical for a long and happy life for your rodent! Avoid giving too many treats and snacks in between meals and focus on giving healthy snacks! We suggest feeding Mazuri rat and mouse pellets.

Enrichment



It is so important to provide rodents with plenty of enrichment and outlets for their energy! You want to focus a few different things when looking into new enrichment for your rat or mouse. First, think about what they will need to properly exercise. A wheel in their habitat and a ball they can go in to explore the rest of your house are both a great idea! You also want to give them plenty of hiding places where they can bring their food to eat or sleep. Rats especially love having hammocks where they can snooze the day away comfortably, while mice prefer tunnels to explore. It can be easy to make your own hideaways out of wood, but you must be sure the supplies you use are safe in case the mice or rats chew on them. Finally, brain teasers like mazes or puzzles are great enrichment for your new buddy!