



Custom made Hamster Cage



Hamster wheel with solid surface to avoid injuries
For Syrian Hamsters, make sure the wheel is big enough

HANDLING

- One the first day leave your hamster alone for a day and a night - introduce your hand so he will get used to your smell
- Picking him up: Cup one hand under him and one hand under him
- Do not handle your hamster if he has just woken up as he may be frightened and bite



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Hamsters are rodents
- They are native to parts of Asia
- There are 25 species of Hamster: common types - Golden or Syrian Hamster, Dwarf Hamster and Chinese Hamster
- Syrian Hamsters are solitary so keep them on their own
- Hamsters are colour-blind and cannot see very far
- Hamsters can store a large amount of food in their cheeks

HAMSTERS

CARE SHEET



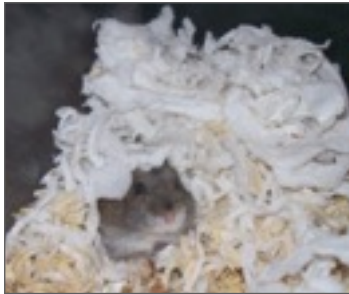
LIFE SPAN- 2-3 YEARS

**THINK CAREFULLY
BEFORE YOU HAVE A
HAMSTER AS A PET**

NEVER RELEASE YOUR PET INTO THE
WILD

BEDDING

- Provide a deep layer of bedding material for 'burrowing'
- Use shredded paper towels or toilet paper
- Use clean hay
- **DO NOT USE STRAW- it is too sharp**



'Nesting' material: shredded paper



Dwarf Hamster Cage - top view



Hamster Travel Cage

HOUSING

- For a Dwarf Hamster provide a cage that is at least 50cm x 35 cm x 30cm.
- For the Syrian Hamster the cage should be 60 cm x 35cm x 30cm.
- If you have two hamsters, double the size of the cage to give them room to exercise.
- A wire cage with a plastic tray is a good option.
- Divide the cage into an eating, sleeping and toilet area.
- Some plastic hamster homes come with built in tubes. These are just right for Dwarf Hamsters, but Syrian Hamsters can grow too big for them and get stuck so make sure it is suitable.
- It must be escape proof. Wire cages should have horizontal bars no more than 0.5-1cm space between them (depending on the type of hamster). These allow the hamster to climb.
- It must be easy to clean. Clean once a week.
- Clean the cage regularly as ammonia from urine can build up and cause breathing problems.
- Get a small hamster travel cage to hold the animals when cleaning the main cage.

PREPARING THE CAGE

- keep the cage away from direct sunlight and draughts from air-conditioning.
- Temperature should be 17C-23C.
- Place a good layer of wood shavings on the floor of the cage.
- Fill the water bottle and fix to a height that the hamster can reach easily.
- Place a small, shallow, heavy bowl on the cage floor.
- Place some 'nesting material' in the cage.

A BALANCED HAMSTER DIET

- Sunflower seeds
- Corn, oats, barley, wheat
- Rabbit or alfalfa pellets
- Fresh fruits and vegetables 2 or 3 times a week: (apples, grapes, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots)



- **NEVER** feed your hamster chocolate, raw potatoes, garlic or salty foods
- **Avoid soft fruit like banana which can stick in the hamster's pouch**



Fruit and Nut Mix



Fruit and vegetables