



welcome  
to the family

# small animal parent

YOUR GUIDE TO COMPLETE CARE

## BIG JOY COMES IN TINY PACKAGES

.....

Small pets amaze us every day, whether it's a chinchilla taking a dust bath or a hamster running laps on their exercise wheel. The most incredible part of bringing home a little friend, though, is enjoying the giant doses of love they have to give. Welcome to our family.

## small animal parent

YOUR GUIDE TO COMPLETE CARE

**petco** unleashed by petco



We'll help you navigate the exciting journey into pet parenthood every step of the way. Get started with these helpful tips, shopping checklists, exclusive savings and more!

---

**petco** unleashed by petco

# congratulations

ON YOUR FURRY FAMILY MEMBER

## FROM DAY ONE

Adding a pet to your family is a fun-filled occasion that can also raise a lot of questions. This book provides lots of quick, handy tips to help as you get to know each other.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

When adding a small animal to the family, it's helpful to understand the similarities and differences among the variety of species. You may have had a hamster in the past, but that doesn't mean living with a rabbit will be a similar experience!

### HAMSTERS

- Easy to handle once socialized
- Have a life expectancy of 2 to 3 years
- Are nocturnal but have small bouts of activity during the day
- Prefer to live alone and should be kept in individual habitats

### GUINEA PIGS

- Highly social and need daily interaction
- Have a life expectancy of up to 8 years
- Mostly active at dusk and dawn
- Love same-sex or spayed or neutered playmates but need proper introductions

### CHINCHILLAS

- Highly social and need gentle daily interaction (fragile rib cages mean no squeezing!)
- Life expectancy is up to 10 or more years
- Mostly active at dusk and dawn
- Usually love same-sex playmates but need proper introductions and monitoring

### RABBITS

- Highly social and need daily interaction (always support body and hind legs when picking up!)
- Have a life expectancy of up to 10 or more years
- Mostly active during daylight hours
- Love same-sex or spayed or neutered playmates but need proper introductions

### FERRETS

- Highly active and need daily interaction
- Have a life expectancy of up to 8 years
- Most active during daylight but also sleep up to 18 hours per day
- Love playmates but will need proper introductions
- Need close monitoring during pet parent interaction



LITTLE ANIMALS, BIG APPETITES

A big part of creating a happy, healthy environment for your small animal is selecting a nutritious diet and wholesome treats. It's amazing

how fast a new pet will begin to recognize mealtime as a fun and exciting way to bond with their new family.

PIG OUT, GUINEA PIG

- Provide a diet of high-quality, guinea pig-specific food daily
- Treat with a limited amount of select fruits and vegetables
- Always have quality hay available for nibbling†
- Supplement with vitamin C source daily
- Keep fresh water easily accessible at all times

- Provide high-quality, chinchilla-specific food daily
- Treat with a limited amount of select fruits and vegetables
- Keep fresh water easily accessible at all times

A FEAST FIT FOR A HAMSTER

- Provide a diet of high-quality, hamster-specific food daily
- Treat your pet with a limited amount of quality hay† and select fruits and veggies. As hamsters are hoarders, you'll need to remove uneaten food before it spoils
- Keep fresh water easily accessible at all times

BUNNY BANQUETS

- Provide enough quality hay to make up the bulk of your rabbit's meals†
- Supplement with high-quality rabbit pellets and limited amounts of select green leafy vegetables and fruit
- Keep fresh water easily accessible at all times

FERRET FINE DINING

- Feed these obligate carnivores a high-quality ferret food daily
- You may need to moisten their food if your ferret is younger than 16 weeks
- Keep fresh water easily accessible at all times
- Treat ferrets with ferret-specific treats

CHOW DOWN, CHINCHILLAS

- Provide enough quality hay to make up the bulk of your chinchilla's meals†



†Less than 6 months old eat only alfalfa hay. More than 6 months old eat only Timothy hay and other quality grass hays. †1" to 2" high-quality paper is recommended.

supplies to start off on the right paw

Below are the basics to get through your first few days smoothly. It's helpful to set up your new pet's habitat BEFORE you bring them home. Petco makes it easy to get what your pet needs.

**NOTE:** Small-animal starter kits are a great option for many new pet parents. Starter kits provide the basic elements to create a cozy, safe new home for your small animal. Most include a habitat, food bowl, water bottle and bedding. Talk to your in-store partner to determine whether a starter kit is the best choice for you.

GUINEA PIG	
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat (recommended minimum size 36"x30"x18")	<input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway
<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor playpen (recommended)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toys (including wood chews, mineral chews and chew tubes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Guinea pig food and treats	<input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin C source
<input type="checkbox"/> Hay and hay rack†	<input type="checkbox"/> Soft brush
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedding‡	<input type="checkbox"/> Nail clippers
<input type="checkbox"/> Food bowl/water bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> Styptic powder

RABBIT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat (a minimum of four times the size of your rabbit)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toys (including wood and mineral chews)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit food and treats	<input type="checkbox"/> Nail clippers
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedding‡	<input type="checkbox"/> Styptic powder
<input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway	<input type="checkbox"/> Soft brush
<input type="checkbox"/> Food bowl/water bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor playpen
<input type="checkbox"/> Hay rack and hay†	<input type="checkbox"/> Harness and leash (optional)
<input type="checkbox"/> Litter box, small-animal litter and scoop	

CHINCHILLA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-level habitat (as large as possible)	<input type="checkbox"/> Exercise wheel or saucer
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinchilla food and treats	<input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway and lounging perch
<input type="checkbox"/> Hay and hay rack†	<input type="checkbox"/> Toys (including wood chews, mineral chews and chew tubes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedding‡	<input type="checkbox"/> Dust bath and dust
<input type="checkbox"/> Food bowl/water bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor playpen (optional)

†Less than 6 months old eat only alfalfa hay. More than 6 months old eat only eat only Timothy hay and other quality grass hays. †1" to 2" high-quality paper is recommended.

HAMSTER/GERBILS

- ☐ Appropriately sized habitat
- ☐ Hamster food and treats
- ☐ Bedding and nesting fluff†
- ☐ Food bowl
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Exercise wheel and runabout ball
- ☐ Hideaway place
- ☐ Toys (including wood chews, mineral chews and chew tubes)
- ☐ Critter Potty and litter
- ☐ Dust bath and dust

FERRET

- ☐ Species-appropriate multi-level habitat (as large as possible)
- ☐ Ferret food and treats
- ☐ Ferret-specific vitamins
- ☐ Ferret bed and bedding†
- ☐ Food bowl
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Hammock and hideaway place
- ☐ Litter box, ferret litter and scoop
- ☐ Toys
- ☐ Nail clippers
- ☐ Styptic powder
- ☐ Soft brush and shampoo
- ☐ Indoor playpen
- ☐ Harness and leash (optional)



†1" to 2" high-quality paper is recommended.

20% off

with Pals Rewards  
You & Me Small Animal Habitat  
Any one.



20% off

with Pals Rewards  
Oxbow Small Animal Food  
Any one.



20% off

with Pals Rewards  
Oxbow Small Animal Treat  
Any one.



20% off

with Pals Rewards  
Oxbow Small Animal Hay  
Any one.



10% off

with Pals Rewards  
So Phresh Small Animal Paper Bedding  
Any one.



**20% off**  
**You & Me Small Animal Habitat**  
Any one.

**Not a valid coupon.**  
Visit a Petco store to get your free Welcome to the Family book.

Present printed coupon and proof of Pals Rewards membership to receive this offer. Valid at Petco or Unleashed by Petco on in-stock, regularly priced products. Not valid on the purchase of gift cards, prior purchases, salon services, dog training, vaccination services, our Self-serve Dog Wash, online or with any other coupon offer. Void if copied, altered, transferred, or if presented on a mobile device (except Reward Dollars), and where prohibited by law. Single-use coupon, limit one per household. Selection varies by store. **Expires: 2/29/20.**

**20% off**  
**Oxbow Small Animal Food**  
Any one.

**Not a valid coupon.**  
Visit a Petco store to get your free Welcome to the Family book.

Present printed coupon and proof of Pals Rewards membership to receive this offer. Valid at Petco or Unleashed by Petco on in-stock, regularly priced products. Not valid on the purchase of gift cards, prior purchases, salon services, dog training, vaccination services, our Self-serve Dog Wash, online or with any other coupon offer. Void if copied, altered, transferred, or if presented on a mobile device (except Reward Dollars), and where prohibited by law. Single-use coupon, limit one per household. Selection varies by store. **Expires: 2/29/20.**

**20% off**  
**Oxbow Small Animal Treat**  
Any one.

**Not a valid coupon.**  
Visit a Petco store to get your free Welcome to the Family book.

Present printed coupon and proof of Pals Rewards membership to receive this offer. Valid at Petco or Unleashed by Petco on in-stock, regularly priced products. Not valid on the purchase of gift cards, prior purchases, salon services, dog training, vaccination services, our Self-serve Dog Wash, online or with any other coupon offer. Void if copied, altered, transferred, or if presented on a mobile device (except Reward Dollars), and where prohibited by law. Single-use coupon, limit one per household. Selection varies by store. **Expires: 2/29/20.**

**20% off**  
**Oxbow Small Animal Hay**  
Any one.

**Not a valid coupon.**  
Visit a Petco store to get your free Welcome to the Family book.

Present printed coupon and proof of Pals Rewards membership to receive this offer. Valid at Petco or Unleashed by Petco on in-stock, regularly priced products. Not valid on the purchase of gift cards, prior purchases, salon services, dog training, vaccination services, our Self-serve Dog Wash, online or with any other coupon offer. Void if copied, altered, transferred, or if presented on a mobile device (except Reward Dollars), and where prohibited by law. Single-use coupon, limit one per household. Selection varies by store. **Expires: 2/29/20.**

**10% off**  
**So Phresh Small Animal Paper Bedding**  
Any one.

**Not a valid coupon.**  
Visit a Petco store to get your free Welcome to the Family book.

Present printed coupon and proof of Pals Rewards membership to receive this offer. Valid at Petco or Unleashed by Petco on in-stock, regularly priced products. Not valid on the purchase of gift cards, prior purchases, salon services, dog training, vaccination services, our Self-serve Dog Wash, online or with any other coupon offer. Void if copied, altered, transferred, or if presented on a mobile device (except Reward Dollars), and where prohibited by law. Single-use coupon, limit one per household. Selection varies by store. **Expires: 2/29/20.**

# anytime you need us!

Have questions? We can send targeted tips, resources and offers at your request via text!

Text the key phrases in **YELLOW** below to 79949 to receive customized tips and in-depth advice.\*



- Text **SMALL** to learn more about which small animal is the right fit for your family.
- Text **HABITAT** to learn more about habitat requirements for your small animal.
- Text **CARE** to learn more about the care and feeding of your small animal.
- Visit a store** to get your free new pet book and promo code to save on your first petco.com purchase.



## THE EASIEST WAY TO GET ALL THEIR ESSENTIALS

Never forget to buy their supplies again! Our Repeat Delivery program lets you schedule your order when it's convenient for you. Plus, shipping is always free.

**Get 20% off**  
your first order when you sign up at petco.com with promo code. **Visit a store to get your free new pet book and promo code.**

\*By texting any of the keywords presented on this page, you agree to receive up to 1 autodialed marketing message per request to the mobile number used. Message and data rates may apply. Text HELP to 79949 for help. Consent is not a condition of purchase. Go to <https://mp.vibescm.com/c/9rugml> for terms and conditions.

WE'RE ALWAYS HERE FOR YOU.

You'll find Petco to be your one-stop destination for everything your pet needs to enjoy a happy, successful life with you. Stop by your local Petco store or shop online to enjoy a wide selection of handpicked small animal nutrition and innovative supplies. Plus, check out our comprehensive New Pet Guides at [petco.com/newpet](http://petco.com/newpet) and get free veterinary advice 24/7 at [PetCoach.com](http://PetCoach.com).



PetCoach

Trusted advice and on-demand answers from vets ensure that you're not in this alone.



In-store events

Visit Petco for special presentations, hands-on experiences and more.



Repeat Delivery

Set it and forget it—have their essentials delivered to your door on your schedule.



Buy Online, Pick Up In-store

Browse our shelves from the comfort of your couch, then pick up your purchase in-store.



Pals Rewards Membership

The program that rewards you for every dollar you spend.



PetcoNow

Get their must-haves delivered from our store to your door, in two hours or less at [instacart.com/petco](http://instacart.com/petco).



petco.com

Stock up on all their essentials without ever having to search for a parking space.

FOR A LIFETIME OF  
*Love*



5%  
back\*

and a lifetime of love  
**palsrewards®**

Join our Pals Rewards family to get more back for every dollar you spend. Our Pals Rewards members enjoy:



Free birthday treats



\*Earning \$5 Rewards Dollars for every 100 points earned  
(Members earn 1 point per \$1 spent, with opportunities for bonus points.)



Everyday Low Prices on hundreds of items

Sign up in-store or online at **[palsrewards.com](http://palsrewards.com)**