



Ferret

CONTENTS:

1. Feeding
2. Accessories
3. Housing
4. Sanitation
5. Health Care
6. Special Needs
7. Life cycle
8. Expert Help
9. Supplies Checklist

Feeding

Ferrets need a high protein diet. A well-balanced Ferret diet usually will do the trick. Not all Ferret foods are considered equal so you will want to look at the ingredient listings. Marshalls ferret food must be fed for the first year in order for Marshalls to warranty your ferret, but after you may switch to Zupreem or other high quality ferret foods. Cat food isn't a good food as cats have a different GI track. Avoid caffeine, alcohol, sugar, high carbohydrates and high fat treats. Some Veterinarians may recommend a mouse as part of the diet. Food should always be available as well as fresh water. Ferrets under 15 weeks usually will have to have the food moistened for easy consumption however some ferret mature quicker and need it dry sooner. Ask a sales person what the ferrets are eating as they base dietary needs on the individual ferrets.

FUN FACT!

Ferrets are affectionate, intelligent small animals that love to play, explore, and steal. They are known for their inquisitive nature, humorous behavior and kitten like energy. Ferrets are very social and may be kept in pairs or multiples. As ferrets are playful, and mischievous they love to hide household items, dig, etc. so never let a ferret play unsupervised. Some ferrets may communicate by making entertaining noises or by using body language. Nipping is natural behavior to get attention or show defensiveness when awakened,



Accessories

Ferrets need a food dish, water bottle, litter box (as they can be trained to use one), hammock, and plenty of toys as they love to play and keep active.

Housing

Ferrets need a large multi-tiered wire-sided cage, a secure door, and a solid floor. Openings between the wires should be small enough that the ferret cannot put their head through as they can then escape. 1-3 inches of bedding should be in the bottom of the cage. Proper substrate should be high quality paper bedding or aspen shavings. You DO NOT want to use Cedar as this can cause respiratory issues.

Sanitation

Clean the cage and accessories weekly. Scrub all parts of the water bottle by soaking it in a bleach/water solution for no less than 20 min to properly sterilize then wash with hot soapy water, rinse thoroughly, and replace the bottle every 24 months. Scoop the litter box daily. Let all toys dry before putting them back in the cage. The litter box is recommended to use feline pine, newspapers, ferret litter, or other small animal safe litters. Never use clumping clay litters. If ingested this can cause blockages.

Health Care

With proper care and diet, Ferrets can live up to 8 years. Monthly baths are recommended or more often as necessary, using Ferret or small animal safe shampoos. Ferrets typically have a musk smell to them. You can use Good Bye Odor to help decrease the smell of fecal and body odor. Ears can be cleaned using an ear-cleaning solution and a cotton ball. Nails should be cut every few weeks and fur can be brushed daily with a soft brush. Ferrets DO require Distemper and rabies vaccines.

Special Needs

Ferrets do require Distemper shots at 9,12,16 weeks of age and rabies between 13 and 16 weeks of age unless a veterinarian says different. Then once a year vaccines after.



Life Cycle

Ferrets can live up to 8 years with proper care.

Expert Help

If you have questions about your ferret, do not hesitate to contact us. We will be happy to help you. This care sheet is meant to be about basic care. It is impossible to go over every possible situation.

SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

Cage	Litter Box
Bedding	Litter
Water Bottle	Hammock
Food Dish	Hideaway Places
High Quality Ferret Food	Activity Toys
Shampoo	Soft Brush
Habitat Cleaning Solutions	Nail Trimmers
Treats	



1216 Railroad Street
Saint Johnsbury, Vermont 05819
(802) 748-8858

 aquarealmaquarium.com
 www.facebook.com/aquarealm.aquarium
 [instagram.com/aquarealm_aquarium](https://www.instagram.com/aquarealm_aquarium)