



SMALL FURRY PET STATS



Searching for the ideal first pet for your child? Check out our stats for six different small furry pets to help you understand some of what it will entail.

Rabbits



Different types: 60+ recognised breeds including large, dwarf, and long-haired
Lifespan: Average 5 to 12 years - small breeds tend to live longer than large ones
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Neither. They are crepuscular, meaning that they are most active at dusk and dawn.
Hibernate: Rabbits do NOT hibernate

Guinea Pigs



Different types: 40+ recognised breeds, common: American Cavy, Abyssinian, Teddy
Lifespan: Average 4 to 8 years
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Neither. They are crepuscular, meaning that they are most active at dusk and dawn. They take short naps instead of sleeping for a long time
Hibernate: Guinea Pigs do NOT hibernate

Hamsters



Different types: 24 breeds, common ones: Syrian, Russian Dwarf Campbell, Roborovski
Lifespan: Average 2 to 3 years
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Nocturnal
Hibernate: Hamsters typically WILL hibernate for a short period if the temperature inside your home is colder than 10 degrees Celsius for a few days in a row

Gerbils



Different types: 87 known species but only two kept as pets: Mongolian & Flat Tailed
Lifespan: Average 3 to 4 years or longer
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Diurnal, meaning they are active during the day
Hibernate: Gerbils do NOT need to hibernate but may go into a lethargic state if exposed to cold temperatures for too long

Rats



Different types: 7 recognised types of 'Fancy Rat (bred to be pets): Bristle Coat, Dumbo, Hairless, Rex, Satin, Standard, Tailless, and Dwarf - 40 recognised Rat Sections (coat colours & patterns)
Lifespan: Average 2 to 3 years
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Primarily nocturnal
Hibernate: Pet rats do NOT hibernate but do stock up on food for the winter

Mice



Different types: 'Fancy Mice' (bred to be pets) are relations of common house mice and come in different colours & coat types including Hairless. Astrex, Satin, Longhair, and Shorthair
Lifespan: Average 1 to 2 years
Nocturnal or Diurnal: Primarily nocturnal
Hibernate: Pet mice do NOT hibernate but can sleep for long periods during the day

When your new pet arrives, we advise booking a health check with our team