

## Do Mice Make Good Pets, And What Cage Do They Need?

**What are mice like as pets, and what sort of cage do they need?**

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Posted: August 13, 2009, 5 a.m. EDT

Q: Is a pet mouse a good pet to have? I have a cage that my guinea pig is living in right now. I was planning to get mice after she passes away, but I don't know if it is the right kind of cage.

A: Like most small animals, mice are wonderful pets if it's the right pet for you and your family.

When choosing a small pet, it's very important to do a lot of research and put a lot of time into deciding what you want and expect from your pet, then choose a pet that fits those needs and expectations. If you want a pet that is going to be excited to see you every time you walk into a room, then a mouse or hamster might be a disappointment. But if you want a quiet pet that is happy in a fairly small space and enjoys occasional interaction but doesn't require it, then a mouse could be perfect for you.

When it comes to housing, a guinea pig's needs are very different from a mouse's needs. Your guinea pig is probably housed in a cage with widely spaced wire that a mouse could easily walk through. A pair or trio of female mice (my recommendation when keeping mice as pets) will be much happier and safer in a 20-gallon tank with a secure, ventilated lid, and lots of toys and hiding places.

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