

## All Hamsters Aren't Created Equal

**Know the answer to these six key questions before choosing the hamster species that's right for you.**

*By Linda Price*

Everyone knows what a hamster is. They're small furry animals that make good first pets for kids, right? Well, it's not that simple. Five hamster species are commonly sold as pets, and they're all quite different and distinct. One hamster species might perfectly meet your expectations, while another species might leave you very disappointed. Many hamsters end up in shelters and rescues because they don't meet their owner's needs, so picking the right one for you is very important for both you and the hamster.

For the full article, pick up the 2011 issue of Critters USA or [click here](#) to buy the issue.