

## Playful Ferrets

**What all ferrets have in common is a love of playing, exploring and clowning around.**

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Ferrets are intelligent, curious, affectionate and gentle with an uncanny ability to outsmart their owners. Color or sex is meaningless in terms of disposition. Every ferret is unique and individual. What all ferrets have in common is a love of playing, exploring and clowning around.

A typical ferret ploy is to jump on you to get you to join in its fun, then run away, which usually means "come play with me!" However, it might also mean "watch me!" as it leaps into what ferret fanciers laughingly refer to as "the weasel war dance" or "the dance of joy."

Ferrets are famous for investigating, searching, poking and examining anything and everything they can find. They also love to steal and hide socks, toys, keys and even food where only they can find them.

Buy a ferret for a responsible child. Young children sometimes will treat small animals like stuffed toys. They will squeeze, poke, grab, twist, bend and scream at animals. If they do this with a ferret, the animal may become frightened, then possibly nip or bite to get away.

Never leave an infant or small child alone with any animal, no matter how well you think you know the pet or the child. Ferrets and very young children simply do not mix and putting the two together should be discouraged.

One of the joys of ferret ownership is that the animals never seem to lose their playfulness. No matter how old they are, ferrets will want lots of love and companionship.