

## New Hedgehog Checklist

**Use this checklist before you bring a pet hedgehog home.**

*By Audrey Pavia*

1. Cage – The largest cage you can afford, allowing at least 2 square feet of floor space per hedgehog. Cage should be made from wire mesh no larger than 1 by 2 inches in size, with a solid floor.
2. Exercise wheel 11 inches in diameter, designed for hamsters or hedgehogs. The wheel should have a solid floor to run on.
3. Nest box made from untreated wood or plastic; large enough for the hedgehog to fit inside.
4. Commercial hedgehog food or high-quality, low fat dry cat food.
5. Food bowl in a heavy crock to prevent spillage
6. Hanging water bottle that attaches to the side of the cage.
7. Toys such as small, solid rubber balls made for cats; empty toilet paper rolls, small cardboard boxes.
8. A small litter box that fits in the corner of the cage, along with non-clumping, dust-free, unscented cat litter or recycled paper litter.
9. Bedding safe for small animals, such as recycled paper bedding or aspen shavings
10. Nail clippers designed for cats or human babies
11. Travel carrier designed for small animals