

*How to care for  
your Guinea pig.*





(*Cavia porcellus*), also called the *cavy*, is a species of rodent belonging to the family Caviidae and the genus *Cavia*. Despite their common name, these animals are not in the pig family, nor are they from Guinea. They originated in the Andes, and earlier studies based on biochemistry and hybridization suggested they are domesticated descendants of a closely related species of cavy such as *Cavia aperea*, *C. fulgida*, or *C. tschudii* and, therefore, do not exist naturally in the wild. [ 1 ]

From [Wikipedia](#).

# Interaction.

Playing with your Guinea pig is important. These social creatures are very gentle and rarely bite. Because Guinea pigs make frequent "deposits", use of an old towel is recommended when having fun with your rodent. Nobody likes a party pooper!

Towel to prevent "surprises" from leaking through.



# Petting.



Guinea pigs love to be pet and will remain very still.

Guinea pigs also remain very still when terribly frightened.

Hmmmm.

Perhaps this Guinea pig is in fact terrified.

That would explain the amounts of poop.

# The Cage.

A cage needs to be large enough for the pig to freely roam.

A roaming pig is a happy pig.



# Supplies.



You will need a source of fresh water and food.

You will need a lot of food. They are called pigs for a reason.

# A Cave and Wood Chips.

Guinea pigs are also known as "cavies" because they love to burrow and hide.

Having some form of shelter gives your pig the privacy she needs and she will love you the more for it.



# A Shovel.



Cavies poop a lot.

It's their single biggest downfall.

You will need a sturdy scoop to deal with their droppings.

Poop.

Poop.



*The End.*

