

# degu care sheet



Always wash your hands after handling your degu or its housing to help maintain sanitary conditions.



## habitat

Appropriate cage size. Degus need plenty of room to play. The cage should be escape proof. A glass or metal cage is recommended. Plastic is not recommended as the degu can likely chew through it. Shavings such as aspen, pelleted bedding or recycled paper is recommended. Cedar and pine are not recommended. Provide 1-2 inches of bedding and change regularly to provide a clean and healthy environment. Degus will need to be provided with a nesting box. Bedding material should be supplied to allow degus to line the boxes they would like to burrow.



## temperature

Avoid extreme temperatures. Degus acclimate well to normal household temperatures. Do not put your degu in direct sunlight or a drafty area.



## diet

Degu, chinchilla, or guinea pig food. Fresh timothy hay should be available at all times. Fresh leafy greens and green beans can be offered in limited quantities. Any vegetable in the cabbage family should be avoided. Raisins and sunflower seeds or peanuts can be offered as treats on very rare occasion.



## water

Provide fresh, clean, chlorine-free water daily.

## shopping list

- appropriate sized cage
- appropriate litter (no cedar or pine)
- degu food
- food bowl
- water bottle
- raisins or seeds (limited amount)
- wood chews
- nesting box
- fluffy material for nesting
- book about degus

## fun facts

### average size

9 to 12 inches long

### average life span

up to 13 years

### misc. information

degus are very social, at least one playmate is required

they are prone to diseases like diabetes

frequent dust baths should be provided to your degu to keep their coats clean & free of grease

for more information or to see other care sheets, visit us online