



DEGU care sheet



PET DEPOT

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

CAGING NEEDED

- 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 line a burrow.

ENVIRONMENT

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 NEEDS

Provide fresh, clean, chlorine-free water daily.

MISC. INFORMATION

- Degus are very social creatures; at least one playmate is required.
- Chew sticks should be available to your degu at all times to help maintain their constantly growing incisors and molars.
- Frequent dust baths should be provided to your degu to keep their coats clean and free of grease.
- Degus are prone to diseases like diabetes; refrain from feeding your degu an abundance of sugar or treats.

AVERAGE SIZE

9-12 inches; 6-14 ounces

LIFE SPAN

Up to 13 years.

SHOPPING LIST FOR NEEDED SUPPLIES

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Degu Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate sized cage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Bowl | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Litter (No Cedar or Pine) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Chews | <input type="checkbox"/> Nesting Box |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Fluffy Material for Nesting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raisins or Seeds (Limited Amount) | <input type="checkbox"/> Book about Degus |