

CHINCHILLA CARE SHEET:

WHAT SHOULD I FEED MY CHINCHILLA?

- High-quality chinchilla pellets and limited amounts of vegetables and fruits.
- Provide Timothy hay at all times. 80-90% of their diet should consist of grass/hay.
- Clean, fresh, filtered, chlorine-free water, changed daily.
- Do not feed chocolate, caffeine or alcohol as these can cause serious medical conditions. Avoid sugar and high fat treats.

Chinchillas' teeth grow continuously throughout their life while also wearing down and keeping at the correct length/shape by eating grass/ hay/grass-based chinchilla pellets

WHAT SHOULD I AVOID FEEDING MY CHINCHILLA?

- Asparagus
- Avocado
- Peas
- Cabbage
- Corn
- Lettuce
- Broccoli
- Spinach
- Rhubarb including rhubarb leaves.
- Banana
- Sunflower seeds
- Peanuts



SUPERCOLORING

ENTERTAINMENT: If your chinchilla is kept alone you must provide companionship by interacting with them daily. Chinchillas well handled by people from a young age can see humans as friends/companions.

TEMPERATURE: The ideal temperature should be kept between 60°F and 75°F, and humidity should be kept at less than 60% relative. As a general rule, temperature + humidity should not exceed 150. Above these temperatures and humidity, chinchillas are prone to developing heatstroke.

BATHING & DUST: Dust baths are the way chinchillas clean their fur. Two or three times a week, put about an inch of chinchilla dust into a box or other open container that is big enough for your chin to roll around in, then let him have at it. He naturally knows what to do and will spend about 10 to 15 minutes in his dust bath. Remove the dish after your chinchilla is finished grooming in it. Bathing in dust more than a few times each week can dry out your little chin's skin.

DO NOT GET YOUR CHINCHILLA WET. NO BATHS WITH WATER!

Density, the feature that makes chinchillas' fur so soft, is also what makes getting them wet off limits. Your chinchilla has 80 hairs in each follicle -- quite a lot more than your one hair per follicle. If you were to get your chin's dense fur wet, it could clump up and mat. On top of that, if your chinchilla gets wet, he could lose body heat quickly and easily become chilled, leaving him vulnerable to getting sick. Chinchillas should also not get wet due to their dense fur being extremely difficult to dry which in turn could cause fungus growth.

WHAT ABOUT STICKY MESSSES? Not being able to get your chinchilla wet can be a problem if he happens to get into a particularly dirty or sticky mess. When a dust bath won't do the trick, you can spot clean your chinchilla with a damp -- but not soaking wet -- cloth. Rub the cloth only on the area that needs cleaning and try to avoid getting more than the surface of his fur damp.