



Fun fact ↪ Baby mice are born hairless and blind.

Mouse at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner**

Average lifespan: **1-2 years**

Average adult size: **2.5-4 inches**

Diet: **High-quality pelleted mouse food plus small amounts of fresh produce**

Minimum habitat size: **At least 18" L x 18" W x 10" H for two to three mice**

Temperature: **Mid-50s F to under 80 F**

Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Choose a well-ventilated wire cage with a secure top and bar spacing no wider than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Glass or plastic enclosures can be used, but wire provides better airflow. For two to three mice, provide a cage at least 18" x 18" x 10", though larger is better.
- Line the bottom with 2-3 inches of undyed shredded paper or hay to allow burrowing. Add hideouts, hammocks, ladders, tunnels, cardboard tubes, ropes, chew toys, and a solid exercise wheel. Provide a food bowl and a water bottle or shallow dish with fresh water.
- Keep males separate from other males to prevent aggression. If housing males and females together, expect breeding as early as 6 weeks. Females may be housed together when introduced properly.
- Spot-clean daily. Deep-clean a couple of times per week. Disinfect the cage and non-porous items with a rodent-safe cleaner or 3% bleach solution, rinse thoroughly, and let everything dry before reassembling.



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Supply Checklist

- Secure wire habitat
- Paper-based bedding
- Food bowl and water bottle/dish
- High-quality pelleted food
- Exercise wheel
- Hideaways and hammocks
- Tunnels and climbing toys
- Chew toys
- Nesting materials

Diet

Feed a high-quality commercial pelleted mouse food as the main diet. Offer small amounts of apples, bananas, peas, carrots, broccoli, and dark leafy greens in a separate bowl.

Remove uneaten fresh food after 12 hours. Avoid chocolate, raw beans, garlic, onion, citrus fruits, and foods high in sugar, salt, or caffeine. Provide fresh water at all times.

Health

Healthy mice are active, curious, and energetic, with clear eyes and soft fur. Because of their short lifespan, vet visits are often needed only when problems arise.

Contact a veterinarian if you notice weight gain, physical changes, behavior changes, or signs of illness. Mice are prone to tumors, so monitor them closely.

Fun fact ↪ They reach adulthood at 6 weeks and senior age at 11 months.

Fun fact ↪ Mice use their whiskers to sense their environment.

