



# SMALL FURRY PET STATS



Searching for the ideal first pet for your child? Check out our stats for six different small furry pets to help you understand some of what it will entail.



**Different types:** 60+ recognised breeds including large, dwarf, and long-haired

**Lifespan:** Average 5 to 12 years - small breeds tend to live longer than large ones

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Neither. They are crepuscular, meaning that they are most active at dusk and dawn.

**Hibernate:** Rabbits do NOT hibernate

## Guinea Pigs



**Different types:** 40+ recognised breeds, common: American Cavy, Abyssinian, Teddy

**Lifespan:** Average 4 to 8 years

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Neither. They are crepuscular, meaning that they are most active at dusk and dawn. They take short naps instead of sleeping for a long time

**Hibernate:** Guinea Pigs do NOT hibernate

## Hamsters



**Different types:** 24 breeds, common ones: Syrian, Russian Dwarf Campbell, Roborovski

**Lifespan:** Average 2 to 3 years

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Nocturnal

**Hibernate:** Hamsters typically WILL hibernate for a short period if the temperature inside your home is colder than 10 degrees Celsius for a few days in a row

## Gerbils



**Different types:** 87 known species but only two kept as pets: Mongolian & Flat Tailed

**Lifespan:** Average 3 to 4 years or longer

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Diurnal, meaning they are active during the day

**Hibernate:** Gerbils do NOT need to hibernate but may go into a lethargic state if exposed to cold temperatures for too long

## Rats



**Different types:** 7 recognised types of 'Fancy Rat' (bred to be pets): Bristle Coat, Dumbo, Hairless, Rex, Satin, Standard, Tailless, and Dwarf - 40 recognised Rat Sections (coat colours & patterns)

**Lifespan:** Average 2 to 3 years

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Primarily nocturnal

**Hibernate:** Pet rats do NOT hibernate but do stock up on food for the winter

## Mice



**Different types:** 'Fancy Mice' (bred to be pets) are relations of common house mice and come in different colours & coat types including Hairless, Astrex, Satin, Longhair, and Shorthair

**Lifespan:** Average 1 to 2 years

**Nocturnal or Diurnal:** Primarily nocturnal

**Hibernate:** Pet mice do NOT hibernate but can sleep for long periods during the day

When your new pet arrives, we advise booking a health check with our team