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March 2020 Newsletter

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Happy Adopt a Rescued Guinea Pig Month! Keyword here: Rescued! Yep, there are many guinea pig rescues you can adopt from but before you look at the adorable faces below and make an impulse decision, there are some important things you need to know!

- Guinea pigs need companionship to be happy, you'll have to adopt two at the very least.
- There will be lots and lots of poop!
- Some don't like to be handled and they WILL let you know.
- Guinea pigs can be costly- habitats, laundry supplies, nail trims, exotic pet vet care, specialty food, and more.

Still interested in adopting a guinea pig? Click here to learn more or contact The Guinea Pig Adoption Network.

photos via instagram@guineapig_heaven

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES

How to Find the Purrfect Apartment Cat

Did you know that almost 43 million American households own cats? Yeah, that's a whole lot of crazy cat ladies and cat daddies (looking at you)! Let's take it a step further- twenty percent of those households live in apartments and condos.

Here are some important characteristics to look for when choosing a furry feline to share your small space.

People-Friendly: This is rather obvious but you'd be surprised how many cats can't stand us humans. Honestly, can you blame them?! If you enjoy having company over, definitely take this one seriously.

Laid Back: There's nothing better than relaxing at the end of a long day with your furry companion in your lap. If you prefer a cat that is more chill, adopting a senior kitty is a great option.

Independent: A clingy cat can have behavioral issues if left alone for extended periods of time. While it may be cute and adorable at first, but not so much when separation anxiety sets in. Unless you are a homebody, look for a kitty that knows how to entertain herself.

Low Shedding: An important consideration if you have allergies or simply don't have the time or energy to constantly clean-up cat hair around the house.

Non-territorial: Mi casa, su casa, right? Not every cat thinks that way! Cats are naturally more territorial than dogs, especially male cats. For this reason, it's important to spay and neuter your kitty.

Tips for Keeping Your Apartment Cat Physically and Mentally Stimulated:

Although these breeds are perfect for apartment dwelling, they should still be provided with things to keep them entertained and enriched. Here are some popular options for keeping kitty active:

Automatic Toys: Interactive toys such as the Yvelife Automatic Cat Laser Toy can help keep kitty entertained, and out of trouble, especially when you're away.

Catios: Many apartments do not offer screened-in patios, but likely have a communal outdoor area. Since it will probably be a wide-open space, you should consider getting an outdoor enclosure or catio. There are many different styles and designs, but one to check out is the Outback Jack Outdoor Cat Enclosure.

Puzzle games: Cats are smart animals, there is no doubt about it. Puzzle games like Cat Amazing Sliders, an interactive treat puzzle box, are a terrific way to keep your kitty's mind stimulated and hunting skills in practice.

Cat tree: Cat trees are the perfect piece of equipment for indoor cats, especially those with limited space. Cats are made to climb, and a well-built cat tree such as the Feandrea Multi-Level Cat Tree provides the perfect outlet for this natural instinct.

Feline Fun Time: Allow Professional Pet Sitting Etc. into your home during the day to give kitty lots of play time, love and treats. If your kitty is more laid back, we can brush and just enjoy time together. It gets kitty some attention in the middle of long alone time while everyone is at school or working. This is great for all ages but especially for young and energetic cats!

Senior cats can benefit, as well— it allows them to be checked on, given any medications and if they have arthritis, it's good to get those joints moving and massaged. We can come in sporadically or go on an ongoing every week schedule for 1-5 days a week. Learn more here.

Dog-Safe Medications and Dosage

WARNING: While the medications below are generally safe for most dogs, you should ALWAYS consult with your veterinarian before administering any human medications (or any medications).

WARNING - NEVER GIVE ANY OVER THE COUNTER MEDS TO CATS WITHOUT CONSULTING A VET! (certain medications such as aspirin can be fatal)

Hydrogen Peroxide is useful to induce vomiting after accidental ingestion of poisons. The recommended canine dosage is 10ml by mouth. Repeat in 15 minutes if not vomiting. Do not exceed 3 doses!

Immodium AD is helpful in relieving diarrhea. Use 1ml per pound of body weight or 1mg per 20 pounds every 8 hours for canines.

Mineral Oil can be used to get rid of constipation in canines. Don't go over 4 tablespoons per day.

Dramamine is used in many dogs who experience motion sickness. 12.5 – 50mg every 8 hours is the recommended dosage for canines depending on weight.

Use **Aspirin** as an anti-inflammatory and pain reliever. Use 5mg per pound of body weight every 12 hours.

Benadryl is used to treat allergies and itching. 1/2-1mg per pound of body weight can be used in dogs, not to exceed 2mg/lb.

Rescue Spotlight: Canine Commitment

Canine Commitment is an all volunteer dog rescue located in New Boston. They specialize in rescuing puppies, dogs, and pregnant mothers from southern, high-kill shelters. The 501c3 non-profit saves hundreds of lives each year through their promotions on Facebook and Petfinder.

Click here to see pets available for adoption. Click here to donate. Click here to volunteer.

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