

	Rats	Guinea Pigs	Hamsters	Chinchillas
Diet	Good-quality rat pellets, fruits, and vegetables	Grass hay, timothy-hay based pellets, and fresh vegetables	Good-quality hamster pellets, rodent chow, vegetables, fruit, and grass hay	Grass hay, timothy-hay based pellets, fruit, and vegetables
Activity/Behavior	Social, curious, trainable, intelligent, nocturnal	Vocal, gentle, social, lively, curious, most diurnal (awake during day hours)	Nocturnal, large cheek pouches used for food storage, energetic	Social, crepuscular (active during twilight) or nocturnal, need dust baths
Enclosure	Well-ventilated, wire mesh walls, paper-based absorbent bedding	Well-ventilated, paper-based absorbent bedding	Spacious, ample nesting material, tunnels, exercise wheels	Spacious, multi-level, paper-based absorbent bedding, jumping platforms