

# ★ CHINCHILLA ★ SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

We LOVE helping you select the things you need to keep your pet healthy and we want you to be successful.

THANK YOU for keeping it LOCAL and shopping at B&B Pet Stop.

Join our **FREE Rewards Club** program and get **FREE FOOD FASTER!**

## 10% OFF Complete Kit

Purchase ALL items from TOP portion of this Supplies Checklist and save 10% on everything! (excludes sale items)

10% kit discount also applies to regular-priced "suggestions" when you purchase all items from the top portion.

| ITEM                | PLU# | DESCRIPTION | PRICE |
|---------------------|------|-------------|-------|
| Cage (Multi-Level)  |      |             |       |
| Water Bottle        |      |             |       |
| Food Bowl           |      |             |       |
| Food                |      |             |       |
| Hay                 |      |             |       |
| Wood Chew Toy       |      |             |       |
| Bedding             |      |             |       |
| Hiding Place        |      |             |       |
| Exercise Wheel      |      |             |       |
| Dust (for bathing)  |      |             |       |
| <b>SUGGESTIONS:</b> |      |             |       |
| Chinchilla          |      |             |       |
| Brush               |      |             |       |
| Treat               |      |             |       |
| Vitamins            |      |             |       |
| Dust Bath           |      |             |       |
| Chin Chiller        |      |             |       |

KREWE MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

This estimate is valid for 14 days from this date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

### CHOOSE YOUR PET CAREFULLY!

## 14 Day 50/50 Pet Guarantee

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, **WE** take half the responsibility and **YOU** take half the responsibility.

Bring the pet (and your receipt) back within **14 days** and get a **STORE CREDIT** for **HALF** the purchase price.

For fish - please bring a separate water sample.



**FUN Happens Here!**

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The information in this handout is meant to provide basic information only.  
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# CHINCHILLA

*Chinchilla lanigera*



**ADULT SIZE:** 9-12 inches + tail

**NATIVE TO:** Dry regions of the Andes mountains in Chile

**GROUPING:** In the wild, chinchillas live in social groups called herds. To keep a same-sex pair of chinchillas in a single enclosure, it is best to get them both at the same time as juveniles. Otherwise, they should each have a cage and slowly introduced to one another.

**HABITAT:** Multi-level enclosure with plenty of room for your pet to play, climb, and exercise. If using a wire cage, the bar spacing should be 1/2" or less. The floor of the cage must be solid, not wire, to protect their feet. A hiding spot is required so they feel secure.

**BEDDING:** Provide 2" of aspen shavings or soft paper bedding. **NEVER use cedar, clay, or clumping litters as these pose health problems for your chinchilla.**

**HABITAT CARE:** Change litter at least once a week; spot clean daily. Hand wash food and water bowls/ bottles frequently. Create a spray bottle of diluted bleach solution. (1 part bleach/ 9 parts water). Every few weeks, remove the pet and dump the litter. Spray the cage, hiding spots, and toys; let it sit for 10 minutes. Use a damp towel to wipe down cage and hides. It will air dry.

**Avoid using chemical cleaners around your pet as they are very sensitive to the fumes.** Chinchillas can be litter box trained! See our "Housetraining Rabbits" handout for information on training your chinchilla to use a litter box.

**TEMPERATURE:** 60°F - 80°F. **Don't place cage in drafty areas, under ceiling fans, AC vents, or in direct sunlight.** Chinchillas do not tolerate heat and are at risk of heat stroke in temps exceeding 80°F - particularly when the humidity is also high.

**WATER:** Fresh water should be available at all times. Clean and refill the water bottle daily.

**DIET:** **70% of their diet:** grass hays such as timothy hay, botanical hay, meadow hay, oat hay, and orchard grass. ALWAYS have hay available in the cage; your pet should be eating a pile of hay twice the size of their body daily. (Chinchillas up to 6 months old also require alfalfa hay.) **20% of their diet** is a high-quality pelleted diet made for chinchillas. **8%** is fresh greens and veggies and **2%** is treats. (Wait until after 6 months old to offer fresh greens/veggies.) Do not feed chocolate, onions/leeks/chives, sugar, or fatty foods.

**GROOMING:** Do not use water to bathe your chinchilla unless something potentially harmful is stuck in their coat. Chins come from dry regions with little access to pools of water; so they take sand or dust baths. The sand/dust works by absorbing excess oils from their coat. A few times a week, place a bowl with a 1/2" of bath sand/dust into the enclosure and allow them to get into the bowl on their own. They will clean themselves by rolling around in it. Replace the dust in the bath once a week. Their teeth grow continually, so always have a wood chew toy in the cage to keep their teeth filed down.

**HANDLING & TEMPERAMENT:** Chinchillas are active, playful animals. It may take some time for your pet to get used to being handled. Some enjoy climbing all over you while others prefer not to be handled at all. **They have very delicate rib cages,** so they must be picked up with care: gently slide one hand under them and lift while supporting their hind at the base of their tail with your other hand. It is not recommended to let children hold chinchillas. (Chinchillas are very quick and children tend to squeeze.)

**EXERCISE:** Chins need lots of activity to keep them mentally stimulated and physically fit. Provide your pet with room to climb and jump. Supervise them outside of their cage since they like to chew, hide, and run. A large exercise wheels with a solid running surface is a great way to keep them busy.

**VETERINARY CARE:** You may wish to schedule a check-up for your new pet. Consult your vet and keep their number handy in case of an emergency.