

Chapter 1 : The Hamster Life Game - Play online at blog.quintoapp.com

The average hamster life span. Like all other animals, there is no fixed amount of time that a hamster will live for. Many different factors affect hamster life span and how long your own pet hamster lives will depend on these factors.

Rivera syrian hamster on abstract white background image by Maximillian-Setislav from Fotolia. Some hamster breeds live a little longer than others, but none of them live long enough in the opinion of those who love and care for them. Life Expectency One of the factors that determines the life expectancy of a hamster is the type of hamster he is. The other factors are genetics and how well he is cared for. Syrian hamsters, also called golden or teddy bear hamsters, live about 24 to 36 months, and the Roborovski hamster takes the award for the hamster with the longest life span at anywhere from 2 to 3. As with every rule, there are exceptions, and some lucky hamsters have been known to live longer than the average lifespan, with some living long enough to celebrate their fifth birthday. Birth A baby hamster is called a "pup. A pup is completely defenseless and reliant on his mother. In approximately a week, he will begin to grow fur and teeth. After two weeks he can see, is able to move about on his own and has a fully developed fur coat, albeit somewhat short. Hamster babies can be weaned at the two-week mark, and this is a good time to begin handling pups intended for life as a pet. At 4 to 5 weeks of age, pups should be removed from the cage, otherwise their moms will turn against them. Adolescence and Reproduction Since hamsters only live a few years, adolescence comes quickly. Hamsters reach sexual maturity between the ages of 4 to 6 weeks, and males generally mature faster than females. However, a female should not be bred if she is under 10 weeks old because smaller and younger mother hamsters have a higher incidence of stillborn pups. The optimum age for a male to breed is 14 weeks. The gestation period is anywhere from 15 to 25 days, depending on the type of hamster it is. For example, the gestation period for a dwarf hamster is 18 to 25 days, while the gestation period for a Syrian hamster is 15 to 18 days. When birth is imminent, the pregnant hamster will be restless and begin to bleed from the vulva, an indication that the body is getting ready for delivery. Litter size also varies from one species of hamster to another. A Syrian hamster can have anywhere from 5 to 10 pups, while a dwarf hamster may have between four and six pups. Hamsters can become sterile at about 12 to 14 months of age, and if they are not bred prior to that, breeding a female hamster later in life could be detrimental to her health because it is hard on her pelvis and hips. With good care, solid nutrition and veterinary care when needed, pet hamsters can have a nice, long life cycle whether they are bred or not. Breeding hamsters is only for those who will take the responsibility seriously as it can be time and budget consuming.

Chapter 2 : The Lifespan of Dwarf Hamsters - Little Bundles of Cuteness

The longest lived hamster on average is the Roborovski dwarf hamster, which lives for an average of 3 to years. On average, different types of hamster live for the following amounts of time, though these are only averages, the life span of individual hamsters can vary quite considerably.

These littermates were captured and imported in from Aleppo in Syria by Israel Aharoni , a zoologist of the University of Jerusalem. Years later, animals of this original breeding colony were exported to the USA, where Syrian hamsters became one of the most popular pets and laboratory animals. However, the differences in behavioral, chronobiological, morphometrical, hematological, and biochemical parameters are relatively small and fall into the expected range of interstrain variations in other laboratory animals. In several instances, he used the hamster to document the equal rights of all beings, including Homo sapiens. It is possibly related to Old Church Slavonic khomestoru, which is either a blend of the root of Russian khomyak "hamster" and a Baltic word cf. Lithuanian staras "hamster" ; [7] or of Persian origin cf. They have thick, silky fur, which can be long or short, colored black, grey, honey, white, brown, yellow, red, or a mix, depending on the species. The species of genus Phodopus are the smallest, with bodies 5. One rodent characteristic that can be highly visible in hamsters is their sharp incisors ; they have an upper pair and lower pair which grow continuously throughout life, so must be regularly worn down. Hamsters are very flexible, but their bones are somewhat fragile. They are extremely susceptible to rapid temperature changes and drafts, as well as extreme heat or cold. Senses Hamsters have poor eyesight; they are nearsighted and colorblind. They are also particularly sensitive to high-pitched noises and can hear and communicate in the ultrasonic range. Although pet hamsters can survive on a diet of exclusively commercial hamster food, other items, such as vegetables, fruits, seeds, and nuts, can be given. Hamsters in the Middle East have been known to hunt in packs to find insects for food. They carry food in their spacious cheek pouches to their underground storage chambers. When full, the cheeks can make their heads double, or even triple in size. If housed together, acute and chronic stress may occur, [5] and they may fight fiercely, sometimes fatally. Dwarf hamster species may tolerate conspecifics. Russian hamsters form close, monogamous bonds with their mates, and if separated, they may become very depressed. This happens especially in males. Males will become inactive, eat more, and even show some behavioral changes similar to some types of depression in humans. Chronobiology Evidence conflicts as to whether hamsters are crepuscular or nocturnal. Khunen writes, "Hamsters are nocturnal rodents who [sic] are active during the night These periods of torpor defined as "a state of mental or physical inactivity or insensibility" [13] can last up 10 days. In the wild, the burrow buffers extreme ambient temperatures, offers relatively stable climatic conditions, and protects against predators. Syrian hamsters dig their burrows generally at a depth of 0. Laboratory hamsters have not lost their ability to dig burrows; in fact, they will do this with great vigor and skill if they are provided with the appropriate substrate. Both Syrian and Russian hamsters mature quickly and can begin reproducing at a young age 4â€”5 weeks , whereas Chinese hamsters will usually begin reproducing at two to three months of age, and Roborovskis at three to four months of age. Females are in estrus about every four days, which is indicated by a reddening of genital areas, a musky smell, and a hissing, squeaking vocalisation she will emit if she believes a male is nearby. This might not be very visible in all species. Male hamsters typically have very large testes in relation to their body size. When examined, female hamsters have their anal and genital openings close together, whereas males have these two holes farther apart the penis is usually withdrawn into the coat and thus appears as a hole or pink pimple. The breeding season is from April to October in the Northern Hemisphere, with two to five litters of one to 13 young being born after a gestation period of 16 to 23 days. The average litter size for Syrian hamsters is about seven pups, but can be as great as 24, which is the maximum number of pups that can be contained in the uterus. Djungarian hamsters tend to have slightly smaller litters, as do Chinese and Roborovski hamsters. Intersexual aggression and cannibalism Female Chinese and Syrian hamsters are known for being aggressive toward the male if kept together for too long after mating. In some cases, male hamsters can die after being attacked by the female. If breeding hamsters, separation of the pair after mating is recommended, or they will attack each other. Female hamsters

are also particularly sensitive to disturbances while giving birth, and may even eat their own young if they think they are in danger, although sometimes they are just carrying the pups in their cheek pouches. Weaning
Play media An adult female and several juvenile dwarf hamsters *Phodopus sungorus* feeding Hamsters are born hairless and blind in a nest the mother will have prepared in advance. They are completely weaned after three weeks, or four for Roborovski hamsters. Most breeders will sell the hamsters to shops when they are three to nine weeks old. Longevity Syrian hamsters typically live no more than two to three years in captivity, and less in the wild. The smaller Roborovski hamster often lives to three years in captivity. It is also sometimes called a "fancy" hamster. The pet trade and fanciers have given names to several color variations, including "honey bear", "panda bear", "black bear", "European black bear", "polar bear", "teddy bear", and "Dalmatian". British zoologist Leonard Goodwin claimed most hamsters kept in the United Kingdom were descended from the colony he introduced for medical research purposes during the Second World War. The coat of the Djungarian or winter-white Russian dwarf hamster *Phodopus sungorus* turns almost white during winter when the hours of daylight decrease. Many breeders also show their hamsters, so breed towards producing a good, healthy, show hamster with a view to keeping one or two themselves, so quality and temperament are of vital importance when planning the breeding. A sable, short-haired golden hamster A Russian dwarf hamster.

Chapter 3 : What is the life span of a hamster? | Yahoo Answers

Syrian hamsters, also called golden or teddy bear hamsters, live about 24 to 36 months, and the Roborovski hamster takes the award for the hamster with the longest life span at anywhere from 2 to years.

Like I mentioned earlier, every hamster is different. Winter White Russian Dwarf Hamster: Avoid wire meshing for the floor of the cage as their feet are quite light and can be severely injured because of it. There are different types of cages available such as plastic, glass and wire mesh. Hamsters prefer to burrow. The bedding must not be deep. Favorable selections of bedding are wood shavings and paper pellets in recycled forms. The bedding must be changed every week and special emphasis must be provided on the toilet area of the bed which must be sanitized properly. Hamsters like to stay in a nesting house where they can enjoy undisturbed sleep during the day. Their house must be made out of materials like cotton bedding, light paper towels, facial tissues and other soft items. These materials must be properly sanitized for four to six weeks. This would definitely enhance the life span of your cute little pets. Hamsters are very responsive hibernators and they become lazy when the temperature slips to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. When the temperature reduces further, these hamsters show symptoms of reduced breathing. They will also curl up considerably and enter into a heavy slumber when they hardly move at all. As this process involves series of biological transformations, owners must deal with it carefully. Try to increase the room temperature about 5 degrees in every eight or six hours until the temperature reaches 68 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit. However, hamsters cannot withstand high temperatures either so keep it at optimum level. Place the cage in the cooler place for the summer months. The main advantage of a wire cage is that the hamster uses it for a climbing exercise. Suitable wire cages contain detachable base for simple cleaning. Glass cages do have the benefit of being smoothly sanitized but contain poor ventilation system and do not enable the hamsters to freely exercise. Plastic cages normally comprised of many built-in tunnels and toys but are quite tough to clean and have poor ventilation system. Hamsters prefer to burrow and chew. This would provide you clues to the appropriate exercise, accessories and toys for your beloved pets. Usually a wooden piece of 4 x 4 inches works perfect when it has big holes drilled in. This would provide multiple tunnels for your hamsters to enjoy. Hamsters are also playful animals and like to chew and play with cardboard tubes from paper towels and toilet paper rolls. You can also purchase special chewing toys for your pet from the leading pet supply stores. Hamster wheel is an ideal toy for your pet but its shrilling noise would definitely keep you awake at night. **Once Released In The Wilderness:** If you release your pet hamsters in the wild, they may die slowly and painfully. When they are brought up at home, they would not be able to withstand the challenges and difficulties of the wildlife outside of your home. Your hamsters, once released in the wild, can be consumed by other large animals or they will be victims to consuming parasites. Hamsters have no resistance for such unhygienic digestions. Being brought up in the comfortable room temperature, these poor creatures would not be able to withstand harsh outside temperatures. They would be unable to dig up holes for shelter.

Chapter 4 : Hamster - Wikipedia

The fact is, typically the factor that determines a hamster's life span is the quality of care he receives. Proper Hamster Care Teddy bear hamsters require an aquarium of at least gallon capacity or a similarly sized wire cage.

Sickness Housing environment It is safe to assume that if you take excellent care of your hamster, they will live to the greatest of their genetic potential. These are NOT species of hamster! Black Bears are just Syrian hamsters with black fur. They are quite easy to look after and can become tame with daily handling. Syrians are solitary animals but are social and docile towards human owners. To avoid an unhappy hamster be sure to spend time with them every day and give them a large selection of toys to entertain them. Some good cheap hamster toys and chews include cardboard boxes, toilet roll tubes, and cereal boxes. It is rare for a Syrian hamster to bite its owner, and they tend to react well to frequent handling. Do not wake your hamster up as it will startle them and you may get a negative response. Hamsters are clean animals and will tend to choose a corner of their cage furthest from their nest to urinate and defecate therefore they do not need a whole cage clean out very frequently. Food – What do Syrian Hamsters Eat? When it comes to your pet Syrian hamsters nutrition, you should base their diet on a high-quality commercial hamster mix. There is a huge range of brands, and it can be a daunting task choosing your hamster food. Pregnant hamsters should get extra protein and fat while they are expecting and nursing. You can supplement your hamster with fresh fruit and vegetables. Avoid citrus fruits as they are too acidic. You should make sure not to feed fresh food every day because hamsters like to hoard food in their nests. Excess fruit and veg can also cause stomach upsets and diarrhea. Wash any food to remove any pesticides harmful to your pet. Be sure to remove any uneaten fresh food after 24 hours to prevent them from eating spoiled food. All species of hamsters have cheek pouches which, in the wild are used to transport food into their burrow. Treats – Treating your Syrian Hamster You can give your hamster treats once or twice a week to provide some extra protein. Hamsters love treats, but you should not over feed them. There are a few different options for housing your pet hamster, with hamster cages being the most popular. Hamsters need at least 10, square cm of floor space. The cage must be high enough for them to rear up on their hind legs with a minimum of 6 inches. Hamsters kept in small cages are far more likely to exhibit signs of boredom, more commonly – gnawing on cage bars. Substrate – Critical to soak up urine and provide material for digging and burrowing. Good examples include wood shavings from safe woods and paper-based substrate such as Carefresh. Bedding – Hamsters need bedding to build nests and to keep them warm while asleep. If you give them paper based substrate like Carefresh, they can also use this as bedding. Another cheaper option is shredded up toilet tissue is an excellent material. You should never use cotton wool or similar material for nesting as it can choke your hamsters and causes blockages if they attempt to swallow it. Exercise Wheel – Fully grown Syrian hamsters require a wheel with a diameter of a minimum of 8 inches. Anything smaller will cause your pet to arch their back potentially causing health issues. Some hamster cages already come with a hamster wheel that may or may not be suitable for your pet. Make sure you refill it every day and monitor it for dripping. Ceramic and stainless steel are ideal materials as they are hygienic and cannot be chewed up. It is important to give them wooden chews to help them keep their teeth trim. Treats – Hamsters love treats now and then to keep them happy. Toys – Hamsters need toys to keep them from getting bored. It is vital to give them mental stimulation and exercise to keep them happy and distract them from feeling trapped. Coats – The Different Types Of Syrian Hamster Coat The first hamsters discovered had short hair, since then fancy breeders have managed to breed four different coated types. Shorthaired, Longhaired, Satin and Rex. Only male hamsters can develop a long coat, often reaching the length of 3 or 4 inches. Long Haired Hamsters need attention when kept as pets because their fur becomes matted and tangled up easily as well as attracting individual substrates to sticking. Hamster owners can give their long coats a gentle grooming with a toothbrush or a small flea comb. Satin – Satin Syrians are beautiful animals with a glossy sheen to their coats. Some of the fur shafts are hollowed out which gives an ultra-shiny look. Breeding two Satin hamsters together is not recommended as the results are not favorable creating offspring with greasy, thin fur. Their biggest characteristic is their curly, crimped wavy coat. Their coats are

typically very short and dense. Common Coat Colors of Syrian Hamsters Fancy hobby breeding has managed to produce hamsters with vastly differing coats with lots of different patterns, colors, and fur lengths. Syrian hamsters can come in many different colors including, gray, black, yellow, red or a mixture of several different colors. Beige – Produced by breeding a two hamsters with the rust and dark gray genes, the beige color variety is often the smallest and less robust of the litter. Beige hamsters sometimes have a kinked tail. It is inadvisable to breed two closely related beige hamsters as it is such a rare color, finding unrelated animals is difficult. Black bear hamsters typically have very dark jet black fur which extends right down to the roots. The black color is uniform all over their bodies with some hamsters exhibiting white color on their belly and paws. Cream – There are three variations of cream hamster – black eyed, red-eyed and ruby eyed. The cream variety coat coloration ranges from orangey-cream to a sandy color. Black-eyed creams often have dark gray ears, but this is not often the case. Red-eyed creams have pale ears. Sable – Often mistaken for black hamsters, the sable variation has a black topcoat and an undercoat of ivory cream. They have black belly fur, black eyes, and gray ears. The Ivory cream coat immediately surrounds their eyes. White – The white variety comes in three different types – flesh and dark eared and black eyed. All three categories have completely white coats. First discovered in , the dark-eared variation has red eyes that turn darker as the hamster ages. Flesh eared variation hamsters are commonly named albinos. Most color variations can have the band trend. The band width is variable. Dominant Spot – In the dominant spot was first discovered in the USA and rapidly became more popular than the piebald because it was easy to breed. The spots can be small and few or can cover the whole body. Piebalds can sometimes have bellies with different color as well. Piebalds are difficult to breed and are considered to be close to extinction by some in the hamster community. Tortoiseshell – Tortoiseshell hamsters are two colored animals with two primary color tones in their coat. One of these colors is always yellowy, and the patches are distinct with no bridling. Only female hamsters can be the tortoiseshell variant because the gene is linked to the female sex. Again, females can only be this variant because of the female-linked gene. Roan – Roan hamsters look very similar to white hamsters, but they have coloration splattered around the head area which gradually dissipates towards the rear. Here are the key differences between the two species. Syrians are larger than Dwarf Hamsters. Syrians come in a multitude of patterns and colors compared with Dwarfs. They can also be long or short haired. Syrians are solitary animals, whereas dwarfs can live together. Syrians can remain tame, even when ignored for a few days. Dwarf Hamsters need constant attention to stay tame.

Chapter 5 : How Long Do Hamsters Live: Hamster Life Span?

Tiny toothed and lovable, hamsters are cute domesticated rodent animals that can fit in the palm of your hand. Even though a hamster can be an entertaining company for you and your family, unfortunately the life span of a hamster is relatively short.

Check new design of our homepage! They are easy to take care of though, and make good companions, treating you to an occasional squeak. PetPonder Staff Last Updated: Feb 22, Dwarf hamsters are becoming increasingly popular as pets, for their appearance as well as sociability. People are often unable to distinguish between the first two, due to the similarity in size and color. Chinese hamsters, though similar in appearance, belongs to the Genus *Cricetulus* ratlike hamsters. Life Expectancy The average life span of this species is between 1. The Roborovski hamster, which is the smallest, at 4 - 5 cm, lives for 3 - 3. The Chinese hamster usually lives to 2. Shelter Since they are pretty small, they do well living in cages and equipment intended for mice. One should line the cage with pine shavings, but never use cedar. Some of them can be very sensitive to cedar oil and exposure to cedar can even lead to its death. You can expect a hamster to try to dig, thus wire-sided cages will leave shavings scattered everywhere. One option is a ten-gallon glass aquarium, for a pair of this species. You should put in a water bottle, an exercise wheel, and a salt block, at least. A lid is not required, but may be a good idea if you have any other pets. Some of them, especially the babies are very small, and can squeeze out of tiny openings. Ensure that the cage is without gaps, and clean it once a week. Diet In the wild, they food comprises mostly seeds and other plant materials. In captivity, one may feed them pellets that are usually fed to rats and mice, such as Purina Rodent Chow. A likely outcome of feeding them seeds, is that they will pick and choose the tastiest seeds and leave the rest. This will lead to nutritional deficiencies and reduced life span. You can however use them as a special treat. If you feed your pet fresh vegetables, ensure you keep the quantity of greens to a minimum, or ideally avoid them altogether, as they can cause severe digestive upsets. Carrots and potatoes are enjoyed. Expect your pet to hide food in a corner of the cage, or in the nest. Behavior These creatures are very active in the evening, and continue to be active throughout the night. Daytime activity is sporadic. An owner is advised to speak to the hamster before handling it as they are very nearsighted. Also, ensure your hands are clean and do not smell of food or you can expect a nibble. Bites are usually more startling than painful. The best way to pick up a hamster is to pin it down and scoop it up with a handful of its bedding. Once a hamster is cupped in your hands, it usually settles down. They are also known to walk right off the edge of anything, so handle them carefully. It has been noticed that they prefer stepping down into a hand than being picked up from the top. Dwarf hamsters make great pets, as they are easy to care for and get along very well in family groups. If you put in a stranger, you are likely to see it fighting with the newcomer, in a manner that resembles boxing.

Chapter 6 : Syrian Hamster Care, Facts, Colors, Life Span - Shorthair & Longhaired

The average life span of a hamster is around years. Many people believe that hamsters live up to an age of 4 years or more. However, not all hamsters are fortunate enough to live this long.

Check new design of our homepage! The Surprising Answer to What is the Lifespan of Hamsters Hamsters are extremely cute pets, and this is why they are so popular among all pet lovers. PetPonder Staff Last Updated: Feb 17, Hamsters are rodents that belong to the subfamily Cricetinae. These are burrowing animals, and especially in the wild, they protect themselves from predators by digging burrows in the ground. Hamsters love to eat nuts and berries. They are also fond of fresh fruits and vegetables. There are primarily four types of hamsters, namely; the Russian dwarf hamster, the Syrian hamster, the Roborovski hamster, and the Chinese hamster. Among these, the Syrian hamster is the most popular among pet enthusiasts, while the Roborovski hamster is the least popular. The life span of this species also plays a crucial role in determining their popularity as pets. Average Life Span of a Hamster The average life span of a hamster is around years. Many people believe that hamsters live up to an age of 4 years or more. However, not all hamsters are fortunate enough to live this long. Hamsters attain maturity in a very short time. For the sake of comparison, hamsters reach puberty after around 8 weeks of age. The gestation period for hamsters is less than 3 weeks. The average life span of a dwarf hamster is even shorter at 2 years, and in very rare cases a little above that. Choosing the Hamster Be careful while choosing your hamster. Ensure that it is healthy and comes from a clean environment surrounded by clean and healthy hamsters. This is an important factor to be considered if you really want your hamster to live a little longer. A cage of about 20 - 25 square inches is enough for a single hamster to live in. Diet Diet forms an important part of the lifestyle of hamsters. The life span of hamsters can increase if you feed clean, hygienic, and nutritious food to them. Food such as fresh vegetables, fruits, and pulses can also be given. Apart from clean and nutritious food, you should also give clean and pure water to your pet, so that it does not contract any disease. Exercise Feeding the hamster all the time with no exercises will make your pet fat and lethargic. To avoid this, you can place a small exercise wheel in the cage. This will keep your hamster active for the day and improve its overall health in general. If you follow the tips and suggestions about hamster care and diet given above, I am sure you will definitely succeed in adding to the life span of your cute little pet!

Chapter 7 : How long do hamsters live? | The Hamster House

Hamsters are cute little animals that can be found in various households. They possess magnificent skin colors which can be a decent piece of attractions for pet lovers.

Chapter 8 : The life cycle of a hamster | The Hamster House

The Syrian Hamster, also known as the Golden or Teddy Bear hamster is the largest and most popular hamster as a pet. This small rodent is known for its golden fur coat, hence the nickname, Golden Hamster.

Chapter 9 : The Surprising Answer to What is the Lifespan of Hamsters

Hamsters are small rodents that are commonly kept as house pets. They are distinguishable from other rodents due to their short tails, stubby legs and small ears. Hamsters have many different.