



 BEFORE YOU BRING THEM HOME

New Hamster Supply Checklist

Everything to have ready before day one — so their first night is calm.



-  Lives 2–3 years
-  Awake at night
-  One per cage
-  600+ sq in of floor space

Their home

- ☐ One big unbroken floor — at least 600 square inches
- ☐ Deep bedding: 8 inches minimum, 10+ for a Syrian
- ☐ A nest box or hide to sleep in out of sight
- ☐ A quiet room, out of the sun, around 65–70°F

Wheel & chews

- ☐ A solid-surface wheel — 11–12 in for a Syrian, 8 in+ for a dwarf
- ☐ Safe wooden chews (their teeth never stop growing)
- ☐ A sand bath for cleaning their fur

Food & water

- ☐ A water bottle you've checked actually drips
- ☐ A food dish, plus food to scatter for foraging
- ☐ Hamster food mix made for their species

Company

- ☐ One hamster per cage — Syrians fight if housed together

Health

- ☐ An exotic or small-animal vet who treats hamsters, found in advance
- ☐ A small 'just in case' fund of around \$50–100

Day one – the settling-in plan

1 Before they arrive

Cage set up, bedding deep, wheel in, water bottle tested with a tap of your finger.

2 The first hour

Let them walk out of the box themselves. No handling for the first two or three days.

3 The first night

Lights off, room quiet. If you hear the wheel, they're settling in.

Keep this handy

Our exotic vet Vet phone Coming-home day



Pet-store cages are usually far too small. Floor space and deep bedding matter more than tubes and levels.