



## Index

- abscesses, puncture wounds, 93
- Abyssinian guinea pigs, 27
- Abyssinian Satin guinea pigs, 27
- adoptions, pros/cons, 34–36
- affection, personality trait, 11
- ages, selection element, 38–39
- agouti pattern, described, 24
- airplane travel, guidelines, 109
- alfalfa hay, pros/cons, 74
- allergic reactions, ownership issue, 14
- American Cavy Breeders Association (ACBA), 20–21, 113
- American guinea pigs, characteristics, 28
- American Rabbit and Cavy Breeders Association, 20–21
- American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA)
  - breed recognition process, 31
  - development history, 20–21
  - ear tags, 115–116
  - 4-H show standards, 112
  - purebred registration, 115
  - registered breeds, 27–30
  - show rules/regulations, 113–114
- American Satin guinea pigs, 28
- anal impaction, 93
- anatomy elements, 10, 85–88
- animal shelters, pros/cons, 34–36
- ascorbic acid, food supplement, 79
- attitude, health indicator, 40
  
- babies, reproduction timeline, 88
- bathing, techniques, 83–84
- bedding, purchasing, 59
- behaviors, group hierarchy, 100–101
  
- bladder stones, indicators, 93
- boars. *See* males
- body, 39, 62–63
- body language, 12, 103–104
- bonding, 11, 16–17
- bones, anatomy element, 86–87
- bottles, water, 58
- bowls/crocks, 57–58
- breeders, 36–38
- breeds
  - Abyssinian, 27
  - Abyssinian Satin, 27
  - American, 28
  - American Satin, 28
  - ARBA recognized, 27–30
  - Coronet, 28
  - new breed recognition process, 31
  - Peruvian, 28
  - Peruvian Satin, 29
  - Silkie (Sheltie), 29
  - Silkie Satin, 29
  - Teddy, 29
  - Teddy Satin, 30
  - Texel, 30
  - White Crested, 30
- breed standards, described, 115
- brushes, grooming tools, 60, 81
- brushing, techniques, 81–82
  
- cages
  - accessories, 57–60
  - indoor housing, 44–45
  - indoor location, 46–47
  - new pig introduction, 61–62
  - outdoor hutches, 49–54

- cars, travel guidelines, 109–110
- cats
  - aggression issues, 14
  - new pig introduction, 61, 66–67
- Caviidae porcellus, development, 18–19
- cavy, 25
- cecotropes, nutrient source, 78–79
- cedar shavings, health concerns, 59
- ceramic crocks, 57–58
- chewing blocks, 59
- chew toys, 59
- children
  - bonding activities, 16–17
  - handling techniques, 63
  - maturity considerations, 15–17
  - new pig introduction, 61
  - responsibility issues, 15
- children's friends, maturity concerns, 16
- cleaning
  - litter box, 76
  - outdoor housing, 56
- cleanliness, disease prevention, 91
- coats, 24–26, 85–86
- colors, coat varieties, 25–26
- combing, techniques, 81–82
- combs, grooming tools, 60, 81
- commercial bedding pellets, 59
- commercial treats, feeding guidelines, 78
- communications, 102–105
- constipation, 93–94
- contagious diseases, showing, 110
- cooing, reassurance, 105
- Coronet guinea pigs, 28
- costs, ownership consideration, 14
- crocks/bowls, 57–58
- development history
  - ACBA (American Cavy Breeders Association), 20–21
  - ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association), 20–21
  - Caviidae porcellus, 18–19
  - domestication process, 19–20
  - naming conventions, 20
  - National Pet Stock Association, 20
  - U.S. introduction, 20–22
- diarrhea, 93–94
- diets
  - constipation/diarrhea causes, 93–94
  - disease prevention element, 90–91
  - obesity concerns, 95–96
- digestive system, anatomy element, 87
- dogs
  - aggression issues, 14
  - new pig introduction, 61, 63–65
  - versus guinea pigs, 12–15
- ears, noise sensitivity, 101–102
- ear tags, show requirements, 115–116
- environment
  - health indicator, 40
  - indoor cage placement, 46–47
  - new pig introduction, 61–62
  - outdoor housing placement, 51, 52–54
- exercise
  - guinea pigs versus other pets, 12, 13
  - outdoor guinea pig requirements, 55–56
- feeding, guidelines, 74
- females
  - reproduction timeline, 88
  - selection pros/cons, 41–42
  - sows, 25
  - spay advantages, 42
- flea comb, grooming tool, 81
- flies, disease prevention techniques, 94
- flooring
  - indoor housing, 44
  - outdoor housing, 50–51
- food bowls/crocks, 57–58
- foods
  - breeding reason, 22
  - cecotropes, 78–79
  - fruits, 77–78
  - greens, 75, 77
  - guinea pig gardens, 76

- hay, 74–75
- pellets, 72–73
- previous diet considerations, 59
- regular feeding schedule, 102
- supplements, 79
- treats, 77–78
- 4-H clubs, show guidelines, 111–113
- friends
  - maturity concerns, 16
  - travel alternative, 110
- fruits, treat guidelines, 77–78
- garden plants, guidelines, 76
- gastrointestinal system, anatomy element, 87
- gender, selection element, 41–42
- gnawing toys, purchasing, 59
- gravity water bottles, purchasing, 58
- greens, nutrition element, 75, 77
- grooming
  - bathing, 83–84
  - brushing/combing, 81–82
  - health observation opportunity, 90
  - toenail trimming, 82–83
  - tool suggestions, 81
- group hierarchy, behavior traits, 100–101
- gurgling, happiness expression, 105
- hair dryers, bathing use, 84
- handling, techniques, 62–63
- hay, nutrition element, 74–75
- hay cubes, avoiding, 74
- hay racks, purchasing, 58
- health, selection element, 39–41
- health problems
  - abscesses, 93
  - allergic reactions, 14
  - anal impaction, 93
  - bladder stones, 93
  - constipation, 93–94
  - diarrhea, 93–94
  - flies, 94
  - heat prostration, 94
  - lice, 95
  - malocclusion, 95
  - mites, 95
  - obesity, 95–96
  - physical indicators, 89–90
  - respiratory infections, 96
  - scurvy, 96
  - sore hocks, 97
  - worms, 97
- heat prostration, illness indicators/treatment, 94
- homes
  - chew-proofing, 13, 47–48
  - indoor versus outdoor, 43–44
  - new pig introduction, 61–62
  - noise sensitivity issues, 101–102
  - space requirements, 12, 13
- household items, toy uses, 108
- House Rabbit Society, veterinarian referral source, 88
- hutches, outdoor housing, 49–54
- indoor housing
  - cage guidelines, 44–45
  - location considerations, 46–47
  - nest box, 45–46
  - pig proofing suggestions, 13, 47–48
  - pros/cons, 43–44
- injuries, puncture wounds/abscesses, 93
- intelligence, 11
- jumping, happiness expression, 104
- lice, infestation issues, 95
- life expectancy, 38–39
- lifestyles
  - ownership considerations, 12–15
  - spay/neuter advantages, 42
- litter box
  - cleaning timelines, 70
  - guinea pig as pet advantage, 12
  - purchasing guidelines, 59
  - training techniques, 69–71
- litters, reproduction timeline, 88

- males
  - anal impaction, 93
  - boars, 25
  - neuter advantages, 42
  - reproduction timeline, 88
  - selection pros/cons, 41–42
- malocclusion, tooth alignment, 87, 95
- marked pattern, described, 24
- masticatory muscles, anatomy, 87
- metal bowls, purchasing, 58
- metal hutches, outdoor housing, 50–51
- mites, *Trixacarus caviae*, 95
- mixed breeds, adoption pros/cons, 36
- multiple guinea pig households, 67–68
- muscles, anatomy element, 86–87
- nail trimmers
  - grooming tool, 60, 81
  - toenail trimming techniques, 82–83
- National Pet Stock Association, 20
- nest box, indoor housing, 45–46
- neutering, health/lifestyle advantages, 42
- nose touching, friendly greeting, 103
- obesity, reasons, 95–96
- observation
  - grooming element, 90
  - health problem indicators, 89–90
  - outdoor guinea pig requirements, 55
- ordinances
  - outdoor housing issues, 48
  - ownership issues, 14
- outdoor housing
  - cleaning importance, 56
  - exercise requirements, 55–56
  - good/bad plants, 55
  - hutch design factors, 51–52
  - hutch materials, 50–51
  - hutch size, 49–50
  - location issues, 52–54
  - observation issues, 55
  - pros/cons, 43–44
  - socialization requirements, 56
  - weather concerns, 51, 52–54
  - zoning ordinances, 48
- ownership, 12–15
- patterns, coat styles, 24
- pedigrees, 36, 114–115
- pelleted foods, nutrition element, 72–73
- personality
  - age differences, 102
  - noise sensitivity, 101–102
  - prey animal reactions, 101–102
  - selection element, 41
- Peruvian guinea pigs, 28
- Peruvian Satin guinea pigs, 29
- pets (other)
  - aggression issues, 14
  - new pig introduction, 61, 63–67
- pet sitters, travel alternative, 110
- pet stores, purchase pros/cons, 38
- pin brush, grooming tool, 81
- plants, good/bad, 55
- processed ground corn cob, 59
- purebreds
  - breed standard, 115
  - pedigrees, 36
  - registration process, 114–115
- religious ceremonies, breeding reason, 22
- reproduction system, anatomy, 88
- rescue groups, adoption pros/cons, 35–36
- research animals, breeding reason, 21
- respiratory infections, symptoms, 96
- roundworms, symptoms, 97
- scientific experimentation, breeding reason, 21
- scurvy, vitamin deficiency, 96
- self pattern, described, 24
- shampoos, bathing use, 84
- shelters, adoption pros/cons, 34–36
- Sheltie (Silkie) guinea pigs, 29

- shows
  - ACBA National Specialty, 113
  - ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) rules, 113–114
  - contagious disease concerns, 110
  - ear tags, 115–116
  - 4-H, 111–113
  - registration opportunity, 114–115
  - stress concerns, 110
- shredded paper, bedding material, 59
- Silkie (Sheltie) guinea pigs, 29
- Silkie Satin guinea pigs, 29
- skeletal muscles, anatomy element, 86
- slicker brush, grooming tool, 81
- socialization
  - outdoor guinea pig requirements, 56
  - quality of life issues, 12
- solid pattern, described, 24
- sore hocks, reasons for, 97
- South America
  - development history, 18–19
  - domestication process, 19–20
  - guinea pigs as food, 22
  - religious ceremonial use, 22
  - spiritual links, 22
- sows. *See* females
- spaying, health/lifestyle advantages, 42
- spiritual links, breeding reason, 22
- squealing, warning signal, 104
- stiffened legs, dominance stance, 103
- stress
  - health consequences, 92
  - showing concerns, 110
- stretching, relaxed posture, 103
- supplements, ascorbic acid, 79
- tapeworms, symptoms, 97
- Teddy guinea pigs, 29
- Teddy Satin guinea pigs, 30
- teeth
  - anatomy element, 87
  - health indicator, 40
  - malocclusion, 87, 95
  - teeth clacking, warning signal, 105
  - temperatures, outdoor housing, 51–54
  - Texel guinea pigs, 30
  - timelines
    - litter box cleaning, 76
    - reproduction, 88
  - timothy hay, pros/cons, 74
  - toenails, trimming, 82–83
  - toys
    - gnawing, 59
    - play activity, 107–108
    - purchasing guidelines, 60
  - trainability, desirable trait, 11–12
  - training, litter box, 69–71
  - travel carrier, purchasing, 60
  - traveling, guidelines, 109–110
  - treats, feeding guidelines, 77–78
  - Trixacarus caviae*, mite infestation, 95
  - trust, established through bonding, 11
- United States, guinea pigs, 20–22
- vegetables, food uses, 75
- veterinarians, 88–89
- vocalizations, mannerisms, 104–105
- water, always available, 79
- water bottles, 58
- weather, outdoor housing, 51, 52–54
- White Crested guinea pigs, 30
- wood blocks, 59
- wooden hutches, outdoor housing, 50–51
- wood shavings, bedding material, 59
- worms, symptoms, 97
- yards, guinea pig gardens, 76
- zoning ordinances
  - outdoor housing issues, 48
  - ownership issues, 14