

# GUINEA PIG HEALTH FACTS

GUINEA PIG LIFE EXPECTANCY: 4 – 8 YEARS

BODY TEMPERATURE: ~37°C TO ~39°C (99°F – 103°F)

IDEAL ENVIRONMENTAL TEMPERATURE: 19°C – 22°C (68°F – 72°F) \*NOTE: MORE TOLERANT TO LOWER THAN HIGHER TEMPERATURES

HEART RATE: 240 – 350 BEATS PER MINUTE

RESPIRATORY RATE: 40 – 150 BREATHS PER MINUTE

ADULT BODY WEIGHT: 700G – 1200G BIRTH WEIGHT: 60G – 110G

ADULT BODY LENGTH: 10 INCHES (25 CM, OR 0.8 FT) – 14 INCHES (36 CM, OR 1.2 FT)

BREEDING AGE/WEIGHT FOR SOWS: 6 MONTHS, >750G

PREGNANCY: 59 – 72 DAYS

BIRTH: 10-30 MINUTES, USUALLY OVER NIGHT

LITTER SIZE: 1 – 6

LACTATION PERIOD: 2 WEEKS; SHOULD COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY AFTER BIRTH

WEANING: 1-3 WEEKS (ANIMAL MUST BE AT LEAST 6 OUNCES, OR 170G)

TEETH: 20 TEETH, OPEN-ROOTED (CONTINUOUSLY GROWING THROUGHOUT LIFE)

FOOD PREFERENCES: STRICT HERBIVORES (VEGETARIAN)

HEARING ABILITIES: BETTER THAN HUMAN (ESPECIALLY AT HIGHER FREQUENCIES), RANGE OF 125HZ – 33KHZ (SUSPECTED EVEN TO 50KHZ), HUMAN RANGE: 20HZ – 20KHZ VISUAL PERCEPTION: COLOR VISION, 340 DEGREE RANGE OF VISION, POOR DEPTH PERCEPTION, 33 IMAGES PER SECOND (HUMANS SEE 22)  
SMELLING ABILITIES: HIGHLY DEVELOPED, SOMEWHERE

BETWEEN THAT OF A HUMAN AND THAT OF A DOG TASTING ABILITIES

