



# Sugar Glider Care & Information Sheet



**VET CARE:** Sugar gliders DO require regular vet care in the form of an annual visit. Additionally, they require vet care anytime that they show signs of illness, injury or distress. EVERY glider should be seen by a qualified and experienced vet within 48 hours of coming to his/her new home. A newly acquired glider should have (at a minimum) a fecal float/smear, general physical exam and urinary analysis. Your vet may prescribe a preventative course of medications such as Flagyl (to address parasites) and an antibiotic (to address infection).



**HOUSING:** For a sugar glider, the cage height is more important than width. The recommended minimum cage size is 4' high, 3' wide, and 18" deep. The spacing between bars should not be more than 1/2". Cage should not be galvanized wire, but should be PVC, vinyl, or epoxy coated.

**DRESSING THE CAGE:** Cage items should be made of fleece. There should be no loose thread or strings that their nails can get caught in/on. A pouch for sleeping and several hammocks are the minimum recommended.



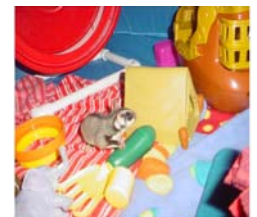
**TOYS:** Sugar Gliders require lots of mental stimulation to maintain emotional health. A safe WHEEL is a must. It is best if the wheel be 12 inches in diameter. Bird toys that do not have loose string/threads or small holes/slots are safe for gliders. Do not use cat toys that have catnip (toxic to gliders). Providing a variety of toys will keep the glider stimulated and free of depression/boredom.

**DIET:** Proper nutrition is necessary for maintaining health. A good, balanced diet can prevent many issues/illnesses in gliders. Some of the diseases/issues that gliders get from a poor diet are fatal. There are many recommended diets for gliders, including BML, HPW, Suncoast, Priscilla Pet Glider Diet, and Darcy's Diet. Recipes and detailed information is available on [www.sugargliderhelp.com](http://www.sugargliderhelp.com).

**BONDING & INTERACTION:** Bonding with your glider does not happen overnight. Gliders are very smart and inquisitive and require a great deal of interaction. They are social and should never be kept individually. A safe bonding pouch is recommended for day time bonding. The bonding pouch should have a zipper or tie shut to keep the glider from getting out.



A tent or glider safe room is a great way to allow your glider out-of-cage time. Gliders should get 1-3 hours of time out of their cage each night. You can get in a safe tent with them and some toys as a good, fun way to bond. Remember, gliders are nocturnal, so play time should happen in the evening/night.



**CLEANING:** Sugar gliders do have an odor. It is important that cage and cage items are cleaned regularly. Do NOT clean every item at once, as this will caused increased scent marking.

