

Rescue and Rehoming in the Reading and Oxon area.

R.G.P.R



Pictures of guineas available for rehoming and basic information.

Countless guinea pigs are in rescues up and down the country, waiting for their Forever home. Some are victims of neglect, others of a change in circumstances; all deserving of a good Forever Home.

1. Are you looking for a guinea or wondering if they are the right pet for you?

At RGPR we match Humans to Guineas and are happy to answer any questions on their care, both before and after adoption.

2. Why should I adopt a rescue guinea from RGPR?

To make room for the next unwanted guinea (that is probably on our waiting list!)

By rehoming from a pet shop you are giving a home to one guinea,

By giving a home to a rescue guinea you will be giving a quality home (with support) to one guinea and making room for another to come into the rescue, therefore helping two!

You will be provided with accurate information and aftercare if / when needed.

3. What happens when I adopt?

A mutual time will be arranged for you to have a home visit from us. We will talk about what we expect from a home that one of our guinea pigs is going to. It is an excellent chance for you to ask any questions about anything that you may be concerned or curious about. At no time are you being tested, we just want the best for our guinea pigs and would like to help you to give it. If something needs changing e.g. food/bedding/cage size you will be advised and given plenty of time to put this right. Why not visit our website www.readingguineapigrescue.co.uk for useful links to suppliers etc.

4. How do I know what to buy?

Before your home visit check our shopping list on the website to see what you need to get. If you are unsure of anything wait for your home visit and ask.

5. Which Guinea Pig is right for me?

Our guinea pigs are with us for a period of time before they are put up for adoption. During this time we familiarise ourselves with their characters and try to handle them as much as possible. This enables us to match Pigs with People, however when it comes to matching pigs with pigs we let them choose for themselves! Experience has taught us never to generalise about anything 'Guinea Pig' when it comes to behaviour.

6. Do Rescue Guineas come with 'hang ups'?

Because we don't know the previous character of the guinea it is impossible to give a definite answer. Guinea pigs do not bite out of aggression, but will bite out of fear or if in pain. The rescue guineas here are often the 'victims' of a change in circumstances e.g. moving house/divorce and have been well looked after. Others however, have not, but we will not rehome them until they are ready to go.

7. How many should I get?

We will only rehome guinea pigs in pairs or groups unless he/she is going to live with an existing one. Guinea pigs are sociable animals and should not be kept singly. You will be advised of compatible pairs/groups. Existing guineas can be brought to us to choose their new friend.

8. Why do I need to pay a donation?

A minimum donation is payable on adoption to help fund the next guinea pig that comes in. As well as this you will need to sign adoption certificate agreeing to return the guinea pig (s) to ourselves if you can longer keep them.

9. What circumstances won't you rehome to?

We will not rehome to a home that uses woodshavings/sawdust because of the health problems associated with it. Most of the guineas that come here are fungal and have been treated for it once (at least) already, it is unfair to purposely compromise their health, we feel. All homes must be able to provide a shed/outbuilding for the hutch to go into during the Autumn and Winter months (September-April). Guinea pigs have not evolved enough to be able to cope with our damp climate (hence a lot of Fungal skin problems seen in guinea pigs). We will not rehome guinea pigs to live with rabbits, they have different dietary requirements and there is the potential for bullying or accidental death when a rabbit does a 'lamb's leap' and hits guinea with those powerful back legs.

We will not rehome to homes with more than 10 guinea pigs unless the circumstances are exceptional.

All these situations (bar the last) can be resolved though; bedding can be changed, guinea pigs can be housed inside/a shed can be provided, and separate accommodation can be provided for the rabbit (we can even help you find a friend for your rabbit!).

10. Last but not least:

Get to know your guinea pigs ways and characteristics then sit back and enjoy them! They are the best little animals in the world who ask for nothing and give you everything (except their food!). Why not give a little back and get your next guinea pig from a rescue? We have every colour, hairstyle and character imaginable, rescue guineas are unique.

