

Please Call With any Questions or Concerns

Animal Ark has multiple
exotic-focused
Veterinarians on staff
including the Owner of the
practice, Dr. Spindel.

Please call to schedule an
appointment with one of
our wonderful
Veterinarians today!

Supply List:

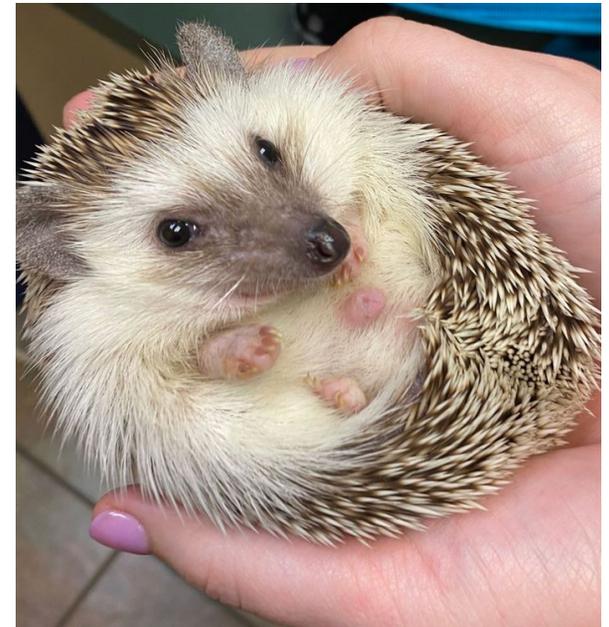
- Cage
- Water Bottle/Bowl
- Bedding
- Food Dish
- Food
- Treats
- Wheel
- Hide

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track of all your
pet's needs!



Hedgehog Care Sheet

Animal Ark Veterinary Hospital
3515 Lawrence St
Clemmons NC 27012
336-778-2738



These crepuscular (active in
the dusk and dawn) creature
originate from Africa



Diet:

The best diet is Insectivore specific. Mazuri Insectivore Diet is an excellent example. Supplement this dry diet with a small number of fresh vegetables and fruits along with insects. A few crickets or mealworms work best.

Offer PM in the evening. Water should be in a shallow dish; some will drink from a water bottle.

Good to Know:

The normal life span is 4-8 years

Hedgehogs are very prone to obesity; proper diet and exercise are imperative for their health.

Hedgehogs do startle easily. Going slow and taking time with them is important.

Listen for all the different noises they make. Chirps and whistles are content and happy, Snorting, hissing, especially if balled up, are frightened and angry.

Hedgehogs have "quilling" where they are shedding their quills. Like teething for a baby, "quilling" can make them uncomfortable and grumpy.

"Anting" is a behavior where when a new scent interests a hedgehog they will lick the scent and then, while producing extra saliva, groom themselves. It is normal behavior.

1. Cage: A large cage with plenty of floor space is ideal for a hedgehog so that they can move around as desired
2. Water Bottle/Dish: Some hedgehogs may prefer a dish or a bottle - offering both is an excellent way to ensure your pet is properly hydrated.
3. Food Dish: A good size dish that doesn't tip too easy is ideal to prevent them from spilling and soiling their pellets
4. Bottom substrate: Some opt for a deep paper bedding that allows the hedgehog to burrow, others use an easy to clean plastic bottom and reusable fleece pieces as bedding
5. Wheel: Use a large wheel with a solid bottom (not a wire mesh) to prevent toes from being cut or injured
6. Hide: As animals that sleep through most of the day Hedgehogs like a place to hide and sleep.
7. Litter pan: (optional) many people have had success with litter box training
8. Heat lamp: (optional) if your room is too cold (under 65), a space heater also works