

# Guinea Pig Handling

## Holding

Guinea pigs are gentle animals with delicate bones. Since some guinea pigs have a tendency to jump, especially when you are returning them to their habitat, it is important to learn how to hold and carry them safely.

Support their entire body. Wrap one hand securely around the chest. Restrain one front leg by placing a finger in front of it. Use your other hand to support the hind feet and rump. This hold is particularly helpful with nervous guinea pigs that have a tendency to nip and bite when being transported. Being carried can be very scary for a guinea pig. Be very careful as they tend to squirm when they feel unsafe or do not want to be held. Keep handling to a minimum at first, and slowly increase the frequency as they grow comfortable with you.

