

Mouse Socializing

The most important thing to remember when socializing your mouse is to go slow and be patient. Repetition and having a routine can help your mouse get used to you and trust you. Below are the steps you can take for socializing:

Step 1

Even though it may be hard, you have to leave your mouse alone for at least the first three days after you bring them home. Do not try to handle or interact with them so they have a chance to get used to their new enclosure.

Step 2

You can sit next to their enclosure and talk to them when they are awake. This helps them get used to seeing you and hearing your voice. Be sure to set up their enclosure somewhere quiet but also in an area where they will see and hear you often.

Step 3

You can rip up pieces of toilet paper or facial tissue and rub it in your hands. Place the pieces in their enclosure for them to use for making nests. This will help them get used to your scent as well.

Step 4

After your mouse is comfortable being out while you are talking near their enclosure, you can start to offer them treats. Let them come to you to take the treats, don't ever chase them around their enclosure and try to make them take the treat. Once they are comfortable taking treats from you, you can place some treats in the palm of your hand and let them eat from your hand. Do not try to pick them up just yet.

Step 5

When your mouse is comfortable climbing onto your hand, you can gently cup your hands and slowly lift them from their enclosure. Keep your hands low and close to your lap or the floor. Mice are great jumpers, and can get very wiggly. You want to be careful that they don't jump out of your hands and injure themselves.

You can place them in a playpen or on the floor of a mouse proof room for free roaming time. You can sit on the floor and let them climb on you and get used to being picked up and placed down in a safe environment. Never pick them up by their tails, it can easily injure them.



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