

cricket

care sheet



A singing cricket is a symbol of good luck in some cultures, and to many people their singing is a very relaxing sound. Crickets come in a variety of sizes that all need to be housed separately.

facts

average adult size: 1/2 to 2 inches long

average life span: up to 8 weeks

diet: herbivore

Will reach adult size in 6 weeks.



Note: The information on this Care Sheet is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, refer to the Sources on the back of this Care Sheet or contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

Developed with and approved by a qualified veterinarian.

diet

Many commercial cricket foods are available; dry dog or cat food can also be used.

feeding

Have a commercial cricket food available at all times.

Fresh cricket quencher or alternative water source should be available at all times.

housing

- Sized - Appropriately-size habitat for cricket to be able to move about freely.
- Habitat - Place egg cartons in the habitat to provide ample hiding space for crickets; insert egg cartons vertically, leaving enough space for a food and water container; maintain good ventilation.
- Temperature - Temperature gradient (95°F for the warm end/basking area and 78-88°F for the cool end).
- House crickets with other crickets of the same size only.

red flags

- Very strong odor in habitat
- Large numbers of dead crickets
- Mites or flies in habitat

If you notice any of these signs, contact your veterinarian.



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normal behavior

Crickets can chew through many materials, such as plastic screen material, and escape out of surprisingly small holes; make sure your habitat is secure.

habitat maintenance

Clean water trough or replace cricket quencher regularly; clean and disinfect the cricket habitat when empty, but every other week at a minimum using a 3% bleach solution. Remove deceased crickets as soon as possible.

shopping list for needed supplies

- Cricket keeper
- Cricket food
- Cricket quencher

sources

Ask a store partner about Petco's selection of books on invertebrates and the variety of private brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet. All private brand products carry a 100% money-back guarantee.

Because all invertebrates are potential carriers of infectious diseases, such as *Salmonella*, always wash your hands before and after handling your invertebrate or habitat contents to help prevent the potential spread of disease.

Pregnant women, children under the age of 5, senior citizens and people with weakened immune systems should contact their physician before purchasing or caring for invertebrates and should consider not having an invertebrate as a pet.

Go to cdc.gov/healthypets and petco.com/caresheet for more information about invertebrates and disease.

This Care Sheet can cover the care needs of other species. Go to petco.com for more information.

