

This brochure is being made in the hopes of helping cover the very basics of owning a glider. It has information on housing, feeding, playing and bonding, as well as ways to enrich your Sugar Glider's environment. This is by no means an all inclusive care sheet! It's mainly a brief look into what owning and caring for a Sugar Glider entails.

HOUSING:

While it would seem that a sugar glider wouldn't need a big cage because they are so small, they do need a rather large living area. Minimum recommended cage size is 2 foot wide, 2 foot deep and 3 feet tall. Bigger is **always** better, with height and width taking preference. If using a wire cage it should be powder coated or PVC coated wire as plain (uncoated) galvanized wire has been known to cause health issues. Bar spacing should be no larger than ½" wide and 1" tall.

The information in this brochure is brought to you by:

Glidin' High



Sugar Gliders

www.glidinhigh.com



Before you purchase your first Sugar Glider, there are a lot of things to learn! This seemingly "easy" pocket pet takes a *lot* of planning!

They require a specialized diet, a large cage, lots of interaction time, a special vet and more!

It can be hard finding a breeder, and buying from a trade show, fair or pet store is often a bad idea!

Please read on to learn more!

Feeding your glider can be somewhat complicated in comparison to other small pets. They require nightly fresh food and water. They have special dietary needs that may take extra planning to make sure they're getting the required nutrition. To learn more, here are the web links for the most popular diets:

BML (Bourbon's Modified Leadbeaters)
<http://www.angelfire.com/nb/sugargliders/bml/leadbeat.html>

HPW Diet (High Protein Wombaroo)
<http://www.gliderdad79.com/hpw.php>

The Pet Glider Exotic Diet
(also known as Priscilla's Diet)
<http://www.thepetglider.com/index/content/view/13/27/>

The Suncoast Diet
<http://www.sugar-gliders.com/sugar-glider-diet.htm>

*With ANY diet, it is important to make sure you follow it as written. Don't make any substitutions; be aware of the fruits, vegetables, supplements and vitamins needed!

Sugar Gliders are nocturnal, which means they sleep all day and are up all night. This can make spending bonding and play time with them slightly tricky. They

need at the very minimum 1 hour of out of cage play time each night. This can be done in a glider-proofed room or in a tent. Commonly referred to as "Tent Time" it allows a safe area for your glider to get out of cage play and bonding time. For more information on Tent Time, please visit www.critterhill.com/TentTime.html

Sugar Gliders are not domesticated, which means they still retain much of their natural instinct. This can lead to an easily bored pet. To remedy boredom, you can provide things to enrich their environment. Toys that make them forage for their food or treats and natural branches, such as untreated apple branches or eucalyptus, allow them to chew and exercise their natural sap-sucking tendencies. For all your eucalyptus needs, please visit EucProducts at <http://www.eucproducts.com> 😊

Treats often include yogurt drops (yogies) as well as live bugs such as mealworms, wax worms, grasshoppers and crickets. While

some people feed crickets, they're not recommended due to aflatoxin mold which grows in the bedding most crickets are raised in. This toxin binds to the DNA of the crickets and can be deadly to Sugar Gliders. For more information on aflatoxins, please visit The Jorn Act at www.suggieshop.com/jornact.htm

Sugar Gliders often need to see the vet while they're awake, which is the middle of the night. It's important to find a glider knowledgeable vet, both for regular and emergency visits before you bring one home! Because they retain their wild instincts, they hide their illness until they no longer can. If you wait until your Sugar Glider appears sick to find a vet, it could result in the death of your pet!

This brochure includes just the bare basics of glider ownership. To learn more about all aspects of becoming a glider slave, please visit Glider Central at www.sugarglider.net 😊