

New Rat Checklist



- Make a veterinarian appointment within 3 business days to introduce your new pet. Your rat will receive a basic exam free of charge (vaccinations or additional treatments are not included). You can make an appointment at a number of Bay Area veterinary hospitals including:

All Pets Hospital, San Francisco—415-861-5725
VCA Tender Care, San Rafael—415-454-4994
VCA Bay Area, Oakland—510-654-8375

- Feed your rat according to the instructions in your adoption packet. Typically, our rats eat Oxbow brand pellets and vegetables in our adoption center. Any diet changes should be done gradually to avoid upset stomachs.
- Remember to give your rat a safe place and plenty of time to adjust to the new home. We recommend confining your new rat to their enclosure for at least the first 24 to 48 hours and visiting periodically. Confinement will help your rat feel safe and prevent hiding in inappropriate areas.
- If you already have resident pets in your home, we recommend keeping your new rat separate for at least a week to avoid behavior problems and the spread of shelter-related illnesses.
- Read your adoption handbook and visit www.sfspca.org for additional care. If you have any questions, please call us at **415-522-3500**. We make a lifetime commitment to our animals and are always happy to help.

Thank you for opening your heart and home to an animal in need!