

## Ferret Don'ts

- 🐾 **Don't** give you ferrets too many treats. Treats should not make up significant portions of your ferrets diet.
- 🐾 **Don't** bath your ferret more than once a month. Remember a ferret's body temperature is 102° so water that feels cool to you is icy to them.
- 🐾 **Don't** wait to take your ferret to the vet when showing signs of illness.
- 🐾 **Don't** rely on the advice of a pet store or breeder regarding Ferret Law. Check with an appropriate agency for information regarding ownership where you live.
- 🐾 **Don't** take your ferret out in public in California, except to the veterinarian, due to their illegal status.
- 🐾 **Don't** leave your ferrets loose in the house when you have guests. They don't know about them the way you do and could harm or release your ferrets accidentally.
- 🐾 **Don't** declaw your ferret! This will cripple your ferret. They need their claws to climb, keep balance, and grab on to things.
- 🐾 **Don't** release a ferret into the wild. They have been domesticated for so long that they wouldn't know how to survive without you. Call your local ferret club for placement or help.
- 🐾 **Don't** purchase a ferret on impulse. Read, study, prepare and be sure a ferret is the right pet for you and your family before bringing a ferret home.
- 🐾 **Don't** let your ferret run loose in your laundry room or kitchen. They both have potential safety hazards.
- 🐾 **Don't** allow your ferret to play unsupervised with other animals or children.
- 🐾 **Don't** let anyone baby-sit your ferret that isn't experienced in ferret care.
- 🐾 **Don't** put a ferret cage directly in the sun or under a heater or air-conditioning vent. Ferrets cannot tolerate temperatures over 80 degrees. Your ferret could get sick or even die if he can't escape the sun, heat or cold.
- 🐾 **Don't** use wood shavings in your ferret's cage or litter that is clay or corncob. Recycled newspaper litter, such as Yesterdays News, or wood stove pellets are the safest and best to use.
- 🐾 **Don't** feed your ferret chocolate, alcohol, coffee, soda, dairy products, seeds/nuts, high sugar foods or raw egg whites. These can cause serious health problems.
- 🐾 **Don't** feed your ferret dog or cat food. There are plenty of high quality ferret foods out there designed just for their nutritional needs.
- 🐾 **Don't** ever use human toothpaste to brush your ferret's teeth. This can be poisonous. Use a ferret paste such as "Marshall Ferrets" Ferret Toothpaste.
- 🐾 **Don't** let your ferret play with or chew on anything made of rubber. This could cause an internal blockage, which can be fatal to ferrets.
- 🐾 **Don't** get a ferret if you do not have the time or the money to commit to it. Ferrets live 7-10 years. Your ferret will love and trust you, please commit to him for the duration of his life.

