

Household Hazards

- **Garbage cans** Ferrets can hide in here and get dumped out and escape or be crushed or eat something they shouldn't.
- **Electrical and Computer Connections Cords** Ferrets will chew these or pull whatever they are attached to down on themselves.
- **Box Springs** Ferrets will dig through the backing and get up in there.
- **Recliners** This is deadly when the chair is closed or opened.
- **Refrigerators** Many are open in the back and easy for ferrets to get into.
- **Dishwasher** They like to get in there and lick the food from the plates, always check before running your dishwasher. They can also get behind them.
- **Rocking chairs** Ferrets can easily be crushed by the chair rockers. Especially watch out for their tails.
- **Carpets** Look for bumps in your throw carpets before you step. Ferrets love to curl up in dark places.
- **Chair Cushions** Again, check for bumps before you plop down. The same goes for your bed!
- **Dryers** This warm, dark place will be the end of your ferret if you turn it on. Always check your dryer before drying your clothes and know where your ferrets are!
- **Laundry room** Most laundry rooms have a dryer hose which runs to the outside world. Nothing is more natural for a ferret than to dig into the tube, run it and escape.
- **Laundry baskets** Your dirty clothes smell good to ferrets so they will often burrow in there. Count your ferrets and know their whereabouts before starting any laundry.
- **Rubber** You name it, they like it! And it is deadly to them. They have very small intestines and a blockage, if not operated on, will kill them. The list of what they are especially fond of includes: cell phone button, erases, remotes, Barbie dolls, small toy parts, shoes, flip flops.)
- **Window Screens** Ferrets can climb and they can dig. It's no large matter to a ferret to hop up to the open window, paw at the screen and it's born free ferret. However it's also sad owner and possible dead ferret if you can't find your friend in time. Most ferrets don't survive more than a couple of days outside the home.
- **Under the sink** A lot of us store chemicals for cleaning under there. Please use child proof locks on all your cabinets and draws in the rooms you allows your ferrets access to. Also many cabinets have small holes which a ferret can get into and then he is off exploring the underworld of your house. He may or may not remember



how to get out! Try to imagine your delight at sawing holes in your living room wall to rescue the ferret!

- **Shoes/Feet** Besides the obvious of stepping on our delicate ferret friends, we could track weed killer, antifreeze or any number of harmful things in on our shoes and our ferrets won't hesitate to try a taste test on anything you track in. Once your shoes are off...do you have any medication on your feet such as athlete foot medication? That's deadlier to ferrets than it is to athletes foot fungus.
- **Screen Doors** You may think your ferrets are safe in the house while the door is open and the screen door is shut. However, ferrets are pretty clever little critters and it won't take them long to figure out how to open the screen door. Or if it is locked, it isn't beyond them to claw right through the screening material and it's born free ferret again.
- **Guests and Visitors** Most guests simply don't know about ferrets as you do. It's best to keep the ferrets caged while you have guests over. They don't know to watch their feet when they walk or watch for the speeding fur bullet when they go in and out.
- **Plants** Many plants are poisonous. Ferrets like to dig up plants and might eat them or might ingest whatever fertilizer you have on them. Here is a brief and incomplete list of plants found around the house that are poisonous:
 - Poinsettia
 - All plants in the Lilly family
 - Bird of Paradise
 - Wisteria
 - Rhubarb
 - Almonds
 - Mistletoe
 - Tobacco
 - Daffodil
 - Onion
 - Aloe
 - Asparagus
 - Belladonna
 - Crocus
 - Holly
 - All fruit seeds, stones, pits

