

## FUN FERRET FACTS

Ferrets are much more cuddly than fleas. In fact they are very popular pets nowadays. They were domesticated about 500 years before the house cat and now are totally dependant on their human owners for survival. They are descendants of European polecats.

Ferrets are playful and entertaining pets who can be taught to do tricks. They use a litter box like a cat and also eat cat food. (They require a high quality meat based diet that is about 31% protein for good health.) They are usually kept in a cage for their own protection when their owner is not home (they can be mischevious and are small enough to hide almost anywhere) but they require lots of play and exercise when the owner is home.

Ferrets should be vaccinated against distemper and rabies. There are special vaccines designed for use in ferrets. Distemper is a very hardy virus which you can track in on your clothes and shoes even if your pet never goes outside. It requires a series of two or three vaccinations initially, depending on the ferret's age, and annual boosters thereafter. Annual exams also allow us to check your ferret for common disease problems such as ear mites, fleas, dental disease and hormonal problems. Rabies vaccinations should also be boosted yearly.

If you have a ferret who's never been to the vet, give them a call, catch him or her up on shots and get him checked over, to make sure your pet stays in the peak of health!