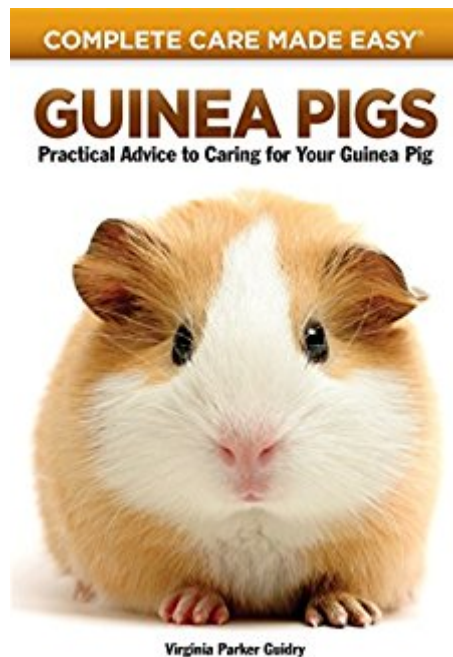




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# Guinea Pigs: Complete Care Made Easy-Practical Advice To Caring For Your Guinea Pig



## Synopsis

Compact, easy-to-care-for, and a bundle of fun – is how author Virginia Parker Guidry describes the irresistible guinea pig. Ideal pets for families with children, cavy (as they – are often called) are clean, odorless, gentle, loving, and entertaining. This Complete Care Made Easy Guinea Pigs encapsulates all the virtues of these perfect small mammals and gives new owners practical advice about how to care for them. In chapter one, A Guinea What? – the author talks about the guinea pig –s natural history; they – are neither pigs nor from Guinea, but rather a rodent from Peru; and how scientists classify this very unique mammal. To decide whether the guinea pig is right for you, chapter two discusses who makes the ideal owner and presents thirteen popular breeds of longhaired and shorthaired guinea pigs and the colors available to pet owners today. The chapter Finding a Healthy Guinea Pig – offers solid advice about selecting the right guinea pig, where to purchase or adopt, and the preferred sex. A complete chapter on preparing for the guinea pig offers the reader excellent advice about acclimating the new pet to the home, selecting the best cage and hutch, and pig-proofing the home. The subject of understanding guinea pig behavior is discussed in the chapter Living with a Guinea Pig, – which also covers daily-care topics such as feeding, grooming, handling, exercise, and litter box training. Keeping the guinea pig healthy is discussed in Staying Healthy, – a chapter that covers preventing illness, choosing a veterinarian, and common ailments. The final chapter Just for the Fun of It! – explores games, toys, activities, and showing guinea pigs. The appendix includes lists of pig-specific clubs, organizations, and websites. Glossary of terms and index included.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a very nice book for the pet owner. It has a lot of useful information. Recommend.

Would recommend this book to anyone wanting to get a guinea pig. Good advice. Got the book for my niece who will be adopting a guinea pig in the near future.

ANOTHER GREAT BOOK I BOUGHT FOR MY DAUGHTER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GUINEA PIGS. ALTHOUGH SHE COULDN'T GET A GUINEA PIG AS A PET, (SHE GOT A DWARF RABBIT) WE READ THE BOOK TOGETHER AND HAVING A LOT OF FUN!

I loved this book! I had just gotten/ was getting ready to get guinea pigs. I loved the cute pictures, and it had lots of info. (: Great for guinea pig owners!

Having owned guinea pigs for 20 years, collecting books about them is a hobby. Unfortunately, I don't feel that this title is among the best. It seems the author may not be a cavy owner. On page 5, for example, she mentions having to consult with guinea pig owners to write the book, and frequently says "enthusiasts recommend" rather than authoritatively relaying what she has learned through personal experience. There are several errors and photo repeats in the book, but I'll skip over those. The main problem is the feeling that the author has never owned guinea pigs. There's a lack of definite advice; the author is hesitant to merely recommend a type of animal bedding or whether or not to feed a guinea pig alfalfa hay. Illness? Prevent it. Pregnancy? Prevent it. These sections should be broader, because sometimes people accidentally adopt a pregnant sow, and illnesses cannot always be prevented--and a vet is not always close at hand for emergencies. Rather than coming across as helpful, these oversights came across as someone not knowing about the topics, and thus finding a way to skirt around them. Much of the information is basic and

could apply to any companion animal, such as teaching parents how to work with kids when handling pets. One need only look at guinea pig books by Myra Mahoney or the late Peter Gurney, or (to recommend another Bowtie Press title) Gerbils by Donna Anastasi, to see how people who love and own animals write about them in a way that someone who doesn't simply can't. This book is definitely well written, but it comes across as if it were written by a detached reporter rather than an expert sharing a passion. It's a pretty book with charming photos, but it doesn't convey a love of the subject matter, or the authoritative understanding that a writer needs to have in order to teach his or her readers. As the author writes, "But appreciating the guinea pig isn't the same as owning one" (p. 21). My hope is that the author will adopt some guinea pigs and find out what a joy they are . . . and then, several years from now, rewrite and re-release what could be an amazing care book. Until then, a guinea pig care book by definite cavy owners like Katrin Behrend, Myra Mahoney, or Peter Gurney might prove more helpful to new owners.

I just purchased a guinea pig for my 7-year-old son, and I purchased this great book as a guide on how to properly care for his new pet. This book has everything that the beginning guinea pig owner needs to know. From proper feeding to cleaning the cage, this book contains everything the owner needs to know to raise a healthy, happy pet. Perhaps the most relevant passage of the book for me was the section dealing with proper handling of the guinea pig. I sat with my three children and read this passage aloud to them so they would know how to properly hold their new friend. In less than a day, my son has become an "expert" at correctly holding his pig, thanks to the tips found in this book. I've also found myself referring to the book for such things as which types of vegetables to feed (guinea pigs need lots of vitamin C) and how to properly trim their nails. I highly recommend this fine book. I knew basically nothing about guinea pigs before I bought this book, but this book will help the novice guinea pig owner successfully raise a healthy and happy pet. If you're looking to purchase a guinea pig, make sure you buy this fine book first. It will give you all of the necessary information so you can enjoy your pet and make sure he's happy, too.

AAA+SELLER. SUPER FAST SHIPPING. ITEM AS DESCRIBED. THANKS

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