



What You Should Look For Before Buying A Small Mammal*

(* Includes the rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, fancy mouse, gerbil & chinchilla.)

Premises

- 1) Pet shop is licensed by AVA to sell small mammals.
- 2) Pet shop premises is clean.

Pet Shop's Handling / Knowledge of animals

- 3) Shop owner or attendant is able to handle the animals confidently and correctly.
- 4) Shop owner or attendant is knowledgeable about the animals and their care.

Behaviour / Condition of the animal

- 5) The animal looks bright and alert.
- 6) The animal stands and moves naturally and comfortably.
- 7) The animal is in good physical condition.
- 8) The animal's eyes, nose and ears are clean and free from excessive discharge.
- 9) The animal's haircoat appears clean and lustrous with no obvious hair loss.
- 10) The animal does not scratch or chew itself excessively.
- 11) The animal was imported not less than 2 weeks ago. (for imported small mammals)
- 12) The animal is free from external parasites, i.e. mites.

Note:

These guidelines are intended to help you choose a pet that is healthy and suitable for you. We would advise that if any of the boxes is not ticked (especially items 5 to 12), you should reconsider your purchase or consult your veterinarian. If you have any queries please contact the Centre for Animal Welfare & Control, 75 Pasir Panjang Road, Singapore 118507, Tel. 64717198, Fax: 64733687.