

# Ferret Medical History Worksheet

Ferret's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Description (color) \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Ferret's date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(approximate) (this never changes, making it easier to figure out how old the ferret is)

*Note: As babies, ferrets require a series of 3 Canine Distemper vaccinations and a booster shot each year after that for their own protection (distemper is highly contagious & fatal to ferrets). Yearly rabies vaccinations are recommended (and in some localities required). **Contact your veterinarian for more information.***

Checkup & vaccination history (note anything unusual)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Vaccination(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Vaccination(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Date \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Vaccination(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Known allergies/reactions \_\_\_\_\_

Surgeries performed \_\_\_\_\_

Medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Medications currently being administered & schedule \_\_\_\_\_

Additional notes \_\_\_\_\_

[www.ModernFerret.com](http://www.ModernFerret.com)

Keeping a medical history on hand for each of your ferrets can help you or someone else who is taking care of your ferrets handle an emergency situation better. We recommend keeping this information near your ferrets along with your vaccination records. Please make copies of this page as needed.  
— *Modern Ferret Magazine*

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS & INFO

Regular Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # of Regular Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Animal Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # of local 24 hr veterinary facility that will see ferrets \_\_\_\_\_

Address of local 24 hr veterinary facility that will see ferrets \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Phone # of a local experienced ferret owner(s) who can answer questions \_\_\_\_\_

The ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center — 24 hr service by veterinarians

**1-900-680-0000**

(\$45 charged to your phone bill)

**1-800-548-2423**

(\$45/case, credit cards only)

# Information for new ferret owners



## Checklist of items you'll want to have:

Ferrets make wonderful pets for responsible pet owners. Ferrets require veterinary check-ups with annual vaccinations for canine distemper and rabies. They need food and water available at all times. Their litter box requires daily cleaning. They need nail trimming and ear cleaning — usually every week or two. They need at least two hours of daily play time to run about. You must check their play area to make sure there is nothing that could accidentally hurt them or that they could accidentally swallow. Ferrets need lots of love and attention, the more the better — they are a companion animal.

Like puppies and kittens, baby ferrets require socialization and training. You need to teach them in a consistent manner what behavior is expected from them.

In return for proper care and handling, ferrets are mischievous merrymakers who are always ready to cheer you up with their antics. Their playful nature remains with them throughout their entire lives. They will amaze you with their persistence and ever-optimistic attitude. They are very intelligent and enjoy learning tricks like standing, rolling over, and coming on command.

Ferrets are very social, affectionate, and interactive animals, and many ferret owners who start with just one wind up owning several because they can't resist the ferret's charm.

### Your local ferret resource:

If you are a club, breeder, shelter, retailer, or veterinarian, or anyone who would like additional copies of this flyer to give out, you can download a copy of this flyer for free from our website at: <http://www.modernferret.com>

- Cage** When you aren't around to supervise your ferret, the safest place for him is in his cage. The cage should be a place where your ferret feels comfortable and secure. Cages are often placed in a central room so that even when your ferret is in his cage he can still see what's going on and feel part of the family. The cage should allow free air flow (not an aquarium) and provide a dark, den-like area for your ferret to feel secure. To protect your ferret's feet, cover wire cage bottoms with carpeting or linoleum. If you think you might get more ferrets in the future, plan ahead with a large enough cage.
- Hammock** Ferrets have very flexible spines, and many of them like to sleep curled up in a hammock. It is VERY cute.
- Bedding** Soft cloth like old T-shirts or sweatshirts makes excellent sleeping blankets for ferrets. Washing the bedding regularly will help reduce the ferret musk smell. Do not use wood chips/shavings.
- Food** For many years ferrets were fed high quality kitten foods, but now there are many high quality ferret foods available. Since ferrets are carnivores, look for a food with meat as its first ingredient(s). Good nutrition promotes good growth and health, so feed the best food you can. Ferrets should be allowed access to food at all times.
- Food Bowl** Ferrets are always playing with things. Look for a heavy bowl that will be more difficult for them to move or flip over.
- Water Bottle** Ferrets should have access to water at all times. Although many like to lap water from a bowl, many will also spill the water and play with it. A water bottle will ensure that they always have water available.
- Litter Box(es)** Ferrets should have a litter box in their cage (more than one if the cage size/number of ferrets warrants it). You will also want litter boxes throughout the rooms your ferret will be playing in.
- Litter** Ferrets are low to the ground and have a slick oily coat. Dusty litters and clumping litters can stick to them and cause problems. There are many litters available now made from things like recycled newspaper or compressed plant fibers that are low in dust.
- Treats** Remember that treats are just that — small rewards. They should not be a large part of your ferret's diet. However, they are good for bonding with your ferret and rewarding good behavior, learning tricks, etc.
- Shampoo** Ferrets can be bathed anywhere from every few weeks to every few months. Bathing helps reduce the musk smell (although an important part of reducing the smell is keeping the ferret's bedding clean and its ears clean). In the past, tearless baby shampoo was often used, but now there are several ferret-specific shampoos available.
- Nail Clippers** Ferrets need their nails clipped on a regular basis to prevent foot damage and to prevent them from accidentally scratching you.
- Ear Cleaning Solution** Ferrets need their ears cleaned on a regular basis. Ear wax buildup is smelly and can lead to health problems if not cleaned.
- Harness & Leash** Ferrets can slip out of a collar, so you'll want a harness that goes both around the neck and front legs.
- Carrying Cage** A portable carrier to be used for bringing the ferret to the veterinarian or other outings. Also can serve as a training aid by serving as a "time-out" cage for a misbehaving ferret.
- Toys** Ferrets will entertain themselves with anything they can find. Ferret-safe toys don't have parts they could accidentally chew off and swallow. Always monitor all toys for damage — accidentally swallowed pieces of things can lead to intestinal blockages. People are the best toy of all — spend time playing with your ferret!
- Information** Read *Modern Ferret* and learn!

Whether you're preparing to get your first ferret or you have been owned by ferrets for years, you'll find useful information in every issue of *Modern Ferret Magazine*! You'll discover all sorts of ferret items and resources that you never knew existed — clubs, breeders, new toys and care products, shelters, catalogs, and more! Order today and start enjoying the ferret publication made by your fellow ferret owners!

Remember: Your support helps us to produce more educational flyers like this one!

*Modern Ferret Magazine* is published six times a year and covers all aspects of ferret care and the joy of owning ferrets.

If you love your ferret (or ferrets!) and want to make sure you give them the best care possible, then you need *Modern Ferret Magazine*. It's the ferret resource that keeps you up-to-date on all the latest developments in ferret care, while providing you with fun ferret-oriented entertainment. *Modern Ferret* has the expert advice ferret owners trust.

For a copy of the current issue please send **\$5.95**.

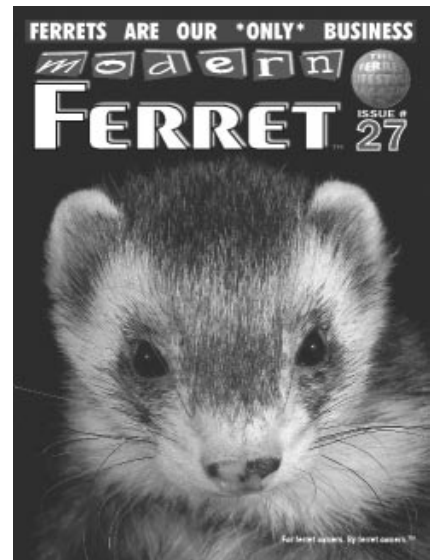
A six-issue (one-year) regular US subscription is **\$27.95**.

Please send check or money order payable to: Modern Ferret.

*Please allow 4 to 8 weeks for delivery. Modern Ferret is published approximately every other month, so it may take some time for your subscription to start. "Plain Wrapper" (no ferret markings) subscriptions are available for an additional \$10 (total \$37.95).*

*Foreign orders please see our web site: [www.ModernFerret.com](http://www.ModernFerret.com).*

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**For ferret owners. By ferret owners.™**

[www.ModernFerret.com](http://www.ModernFerret.com)