



All Creatures Animal Hospital

1894 Ohio Pike
Amelia, OH 45102
513-797-7387

8451 Beechmont Ave
Anderson, OH 45255
513-474-5700

5194 Beechmont Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45230
513-231-2345

Ferrets As Pets

Average Lifespan: 5-8 years

Diet

- Protein 30-40% and carbohydrates <40%.
- Ferret food will provide these ratios and all essential nutrients.
- Cat food is not suggested to meet your ferret's needs.

Grooming/Bathing

- Aloe and oatmeal shampoo can be used when needed.
- Nails must be trimmed regularly.

Spay/Neuter

- Strongly suggested to prevent cancers and behavioral issues in your ferret.

Housing Recommendations

- Taller structures are better. Ferrets like to climb.
- Places to hide must be provided for comfort.
- Use caging with a solid bottom so your pet does not get caught in metal grating.
- Ferrets can be trained to use a litter box: recycled paper is suggested litter.

Annual Exam Recommendations

- This time spent with our exotic veterinarian allows us to form a preventative plan for your pet.
- We can analyze your current husbandry and make suggestions.
- Ferrets must receive canine distemper and rabies vaccinations yearly to prevent these fatal diseases.
- Fecal examinations check for parasites.
- Physical examinations by our veterinarian check the general health of your pet.
- Teeth must be checked for dental disease at each exam.

Senior Screening

- Blood work is required to check the functioning of your older ferret's organ systems and check for cancer.

Common Medical Conditions

- Insulinoma is a common cancer in older ferrets causing low blood sugar. Watch for trouble walking, lethargy, and/or seizures.
- Adrenal disease is common in ferrets as well, characterized by hair loss.
- Enteritis causes GI dysfunction with loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea and/or weight loss.
- Ferrets can contract human influenza with similar upper respiratory symptoms.