



# Domestic Mice

*Mus Musculus*



## What is the history of my relationship to ma

Fancy mouse Mice are sometimes considered harmful pests, damaging and eating crops.. The original motivation for the domestication of cats is thought to have been for their predation of mice and their relatives, the rats.

### Habitat / Climate

Much of their range originally consisted of open grasslands or grassy patches in forests

### Where am I from?

All species of Mice are native to Eurasia and Africa, where they range from lowlands to mountaintops. We are found world wide now except in the Polar regions.



### Other family members:

Porcupine  
Mara Mara  
Capibara

### Who are my relatives?

Rats, Jerboa ,Hazel dormouse and all other Rodents



### Breeding

Mice are polyestrous and breed year round; ovulation is spontaneous. The duration of the estrous cycle is 4-5 days

### How am I born?

Our average gestation period is 20 days. Our average litter size is 10-12 . We are called pups at birth, we are hairless, and have closed eyelids and ears .

### How long does it take me to grow up and how long do I live

Pups begin to grow hair at two to four days. Ears open at three to five days, and the pups will start vocalizing. Eyes open at 14 days, and the babies will start exploring the world around them. Pups are weaned at 3 weeks of age At three weeks old they look like miniature versions of adult mice. At four to five weeks the pups will be able to breed. Pet mice live on average 18 to 30 months.

### Breeding Season

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

### Names for:

Adult male- Buck  
Adult female- Doe  
Young- Pups  
Group:- Colony

### What kind of family life do I

It is a good idea to keep fancy mice in groups of at least two if possible, as mice are sociable animals. However, if a buck and a doe of breeding age are put in the same cage they will produce a new litter every three weeks until separated.

### What do I eat and when do I eat?

I will eat seeds, grains and vegetables

### Who are my predators?

The original motivation for the domestication of cats is thought to have been for their predation of mice. Dogs and rats will also try to eat me.



Comments:

Mice are afraid of rats, which often kill and consume them. This rat behavior is known as muricide.