



# Spiny Mouse

*Acomys minous*



## What is the history of my relationship to man?

Spiny Mice are frequently kept as exotic pets around the world, particularly Western nations such as the United States. In the pet trade, they are most commonly referred to as Egyptian spiny mice.

### Habitat / Climate

warm temperatures and should be maintained around 80 degrees

### Where am I from?

African spiny mice originated in the deserts of Africa,



### Who are my relatives?

Western Saharan Spiny Mouse ,Cairo Spiny Mouse  
Chudeau's Spiny Mouse, Asia Minor Spiny Mouse ,Grey Spiny Mouse, Eastern Spiny Mouse, Fiery Spiny Mouse



### Other family members:

- Stripped grass mou
- Porcupine
- Guinea pig
- Naked Mole Rat

### Breeding

All year  
We can have up to 12 litters per year.

### How am I born?

Gestation length is between 38 and 42 days. Litters normally consist of 2 to 3 pups, but females may have up to 6 pups in a single litter. Other females within the social group may assist in the birthing process and tend to the newborns. Pups are born with their eyes open and fully furred; they will begin to leave the nesting area at about 3 days of age.

### Breeding Season

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

Babies are weaned around 5 to 6 weeks and reach sexual maturity at about 6 to 9 weeks. A female can conceive throughout the year and may produce up to 12 litters in a year. Lifespan for spiny mice is 4 to 7 years

A	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
N	E	A	P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	E
	B	R	R	N	L	L	G	P	T	V	C

### Names for:

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

### What kind of family life do I

We are very social and should always be housed in groups when possible. Spiny mice are prone to obesity, it is important to provide ample space and environmental enrichment to encourage exercise.

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

Our diet is rather hard to maintain seeing as that Our bodies have odd reactions to certain foods. In captivity we are fed Sunflower seeds and cat food. We need the protine so we don't chew each others tails.

### Who are my predators?

Birds, Lizards,cats.

### Comments:

Despite their similarity to members of the genus Mus, scientists suspect that the African spiny mice may be more closely related to gerbils than to common mice.

