

Ferret Proofing Your House

Following is a ferret proofing checklist. Make sure to check each item. They are vital for the well being and safety of your ferret:

- Are all cleaning supplies and medications stored in top cabinets or cabinets with strong childproof latches?
- Are the spaces under cabinets, stoves, refrigerators and dishwashers blocked off in the kitchen and bathroom? Are all small openings that could lead to the outside or inside the walls blocked off?
- Are the toilet lids down when the ferrets are about (ferrets can climb into toilets while trying to drink the water)?
- Is the bar soap in an area that is out of the reach of your ferret (ferrets can climb onto some bathroom counters and can reach the bathtub soap dish)?
- Are foam rubber or soft rubber items such as hand exercise weights, shoe inserts, toys, buckets with foam rubber handles, coasters, rubber bands or drink holders out of the reach of your ferret?
- Are all sponges and Styrofoam products in an area where your ferret can't reach them?
- Are your house plants out of ferret reach?
- Do you have a "ferret safe" room in your home where your ferrets can play without constant supervision? Are your ferrets caged when you are asleep or not home?
- Are unsafe rooms blocked off with ferret proof barriers?
- Is your laundry room always blocked off and off limits to your ferret?
- Do you make sure your ferret is not inside a chair or couch before you sit down? Are there openings in the couch or chair where your ferret can hide and come into contact with couch stuffing?
- Do you check your laundry before you put it in the washing machine to make sure there isn't a sleeping ferret in the clothing? Do you check the clothes dryer before you run it?
- Do you check the inside of the dishwasher before you start it?
- Do you have a chair that reclines? Do make sure all of your ferrets are accounted for before you recline in it (ferrets can get crushed in chair and couch springs)?
- Are there pieces of furniture or shelving that your ferret can climb and get hurt if they fall? Do you supervise them around these items?
- Do you cut cardboard toilet paper and paper towel rolls in half before throwing them in a wastebasket (ferrets can get their head stuck in them and suffocate)? Do you make sure that you keep wastebaskets with harmful material out of your ferret's reach?
- Are your ferret's toys made out of hard rubber, tightly braided rope, and plastic? Do they play with sturdy stuffed animals that don't have small pieces that can be chewed off?