



LET'S TALK ABOUT

FOSTERING WITH HAPPY QUILLS

By Happy Quills

WWW.HAPPYQUILLSRESCUEANDREHOMING.CO.UK

INTRODUCTION

Fostering is an essential part of the happy quills team, without our foster carers we couldn't provide APH and Tenrecs with the love and care they require to succeed in their forever homes.

We are all here for the same reason, to ensure our foster hogs have a safe, loving foster home where they will be cared for daily until they are ready for their forever home.

We have fosters from different situations, most are from loving homes where they have been loved and cared for however due to changes in circumstances need to be rehomed. Some are unsocialised and have health care needs which we need to take into consideration.

We would never place a foster that required additional care such as known medical care to a first time foster carer that's what our experienced carers are for.

QUESTIONS

We are very thorough with our applications and require you to answer each question with as much detail as possible, we may email you with questions, however this is not to catch you out it's to ensure we cover everything in detail.

There may be parts of your application we feel you need guidance on such as diet and setup, we have care guides on our page which we encourage you read and research, it's up to you to take our advice on board and we cannot approve an application unless we are 100% happy everything is suitable.

Not everyone is ready to foster and we have the right to decline an application, we will however give advice and suggestions to help you be approved in the future, you must wait 3 months before applying again.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We try to place a foster hog with the nearest foster carer however sometimes there is some travel involved, we always ask if you are happy to travel to collect a foster and how far you're happy to go.

As a foster carer it is your responsibility to provide a safe setup, bedding, toys, food and equipment (please see last page) however, due to our amazon wishlist we do try to help with any items you need when we can.

Our foster carers look after their foster for a minimum of two weeks to ensure they are healthy and suitable for rehoming, sometimes fosters need longer in care and some whether it be due to age or health concerns may become a permanent foster.

Permanent fosters stay with a foster carer to be loved and spoiled for the rest of their life. A permanent foster does not have to stay with you permanently if you decide you would rather temporary fosters only and they can be moved to another carer who has room for a permanent foster.

If you are in an area where we get a high volume of hand ins we may feel it is best for you to have temporary fosters only.

Sometimes we need a break and it is absolutely OK to let us know you need some time off and can't take in a foster for a while, just keep us updated.

In your care you are required to handle daily, provide a healthy diet which we will help guide you as this will change depending on the hogs requirements, nail trims, weekly weigh ins and daily health care checks.

We want our fosters to be loved and cared for like part of the family.

SUPPORT

Our main point of contact for foster carers is Vicky Pemberton and any questions or concerns you can reach out to her or any admin anytime.

We have a facebook chat for foster carers to provide support and you can share your stories, ask questions and chat to other foster carers.

Vicky will check in with foster carers regularly.

VET TRIPS

We require all foster carers to discuss vet trips with admin, vet visits must be pre approved by us and vet treatment and visits are paid for by happy quills as long as they are pre approved and receipts are given to admin.

AGREEMENT

All foster carers must sign a foster carer agreement form, which states our responsibilities to our foster carers and the responsibilities of the foster carer.

SET UP REQUIREMENTS

African Pygmy Hedgehog Requirements	Long Eared Hedgehog Requirements	Lesser Tenrec Requirements
Vivarium 4ft x 18 x 18	Vivarium 4ft x 2ft x 18, preferably larger vivarium	Vivarium 4ft x 18 x 18
Ceramic Heat Emitter (CHE) Set Up, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holder • 100w Bulb • Safety Cover • Thermostat • Digital Thermometer 	Ceramic Heat Emitter (CHE) Set Up, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holder • 100w Bulb • Safety Cover • Thermostat • Digital Thermometer 	Ceramic Heat Emitter (CHE) Set Up, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holder • 100w Bulb • Safety Cover • Thermostat • Digital Thermometer
Substrate - e.g. Fleece, Carefresh, Puppy Pads	Playpen or space for free roaming - Essential	Substrate - e.g. Beech chips or Bark chips
At least one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed • Tunnel • Pouch 	Substrate - e.g. finacard, paper based, aspen shavings and hemp bedding	At least two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hides • Tunnels • Climbing Equipment, cork logs or similar
Toys, Forage Tray or Mat	At least one bed/hide and at least one tunnel	Sand bath, including play or reptile sand
Bucket Wheel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We recommend Carolina storm, Tic Tac, Squazlehogs, or Speedyhogs 	Plenty of stimulating toys - e.g. treat dispensers, forage boxes, forage mats, etc	Large hamster wheel or mesh wheel
Water Bowl, Kibble Bowl, and live food/fresh food bowl	Bucket Wheel 12" - 16", 12" minimum, ideally the biggest you can fit in your enclosure	Water Bowl, Kibble Bowl, and live/fresh food bowl
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