

Guinea Pig Cage Cubes and Coroplast (C&C)

Guinea pigs are happier and healthier when given the appropriate amount of space to live and run around in. Most cages marketed for guinea pigs are too small (and expensive) for a single guinea pig, let alone multiple pigs. A single guinea pig needs at least 7.5 square feet of living space, with more preferred. A guinea pig's personality really shines when she has a large space to run around and explore.

A popular option for housing guinea pigs is called a "Cubes and Coroplast" cage, or simply a C&C cage. These are cheap, customizable alternatives to store-bought cages that are easy to set-up and a breeze to clean. The two components are wire shelving cube panels and sheets of coroplast (corrugated plastic). The panels are connected together with connectors that are included with the panels into a rectangular shape. Zip--ties can also be used to connect panels. A sheet of coroplast (usually sold in 4'x4' or 8'x4'sheets) is then measured, scored, and then folded and taped into an open box that is placed inside the cage. Fleece, paper bedding, or aspen can then be used to line the cage and is easily changed when needed.



Creating multi-level cages makes the living space more interesting for the guinea pig and is easy to accomplish by simply adding more panels, coroplast, and ramps. Hay racks be made by bending panels and zip-tying them to the side of the cage. Some also choose to build cages off the ground allowing for storage underneath. GuineaPigCages.com has a wonderful step-by-step picture guide for building a standard 4x2 grid guinea pig cage. Their guide can be adapted for any size cage.

A note about grid sizes: Only the grids with 9 squares per row are safe for guinea pigs, not 8 or 5 per row as the squares are larger and can be dangerous for a guinea pig as they may get their head or limbs caught.

Where to find safe cubes:

Andy's Pet Shop

51 Notre Dame Ave, San Jose

Bed Bath and Beyond

515 Hamilton Ave, Campbell

5201 Stevens Creek Blvd, Santa Clara

5353 Almaden Expressway, San Jose

Orchard Supply Hardware

5365 Prospect Rd, San Jose

3615 El Camino Real, Santa Clara

777 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd, Sunnyvale

Where to find coroplast:

Tap Plastics

1212 The Alameda, San Jose

321 Castro Street Mountain View

Product Sign Supplies

625 Emory Street, San Jose